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OBITUARIES

NOBLE COUNTY, INDIANA

JANUARY 1, 2003 TO DECEMBER 31, 2003
WITH EVERY NAME INDEX

These obituaries were extracted from the
The News-Sun, Kendallville
and
Albion New Era

volume 1

By Judith Ormsby Richter and Patricia Watson Dyson

If an asterisk is after the name, the obituary is for that person
If no asterisk, then the person is mentioned in the obituary.

ALBION, INDIANA

2004

Rev. James C. Duke, 91

Rev. James C. Duke, 91, formerly of Brooksville, Florida; South Carolina and Georgia, died Tuesday, December 24, 2002, at 9:05 a.m. in Heritage Park Nursing Home in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

He was born on December 1, 1911 in Columbus, Georgia to Perry Duke and Anna Howell Duke. He married his first wife, Alma Morgan Duke, on March 17, 1935 in Columbus, Georgia. She preceded him in death in 1983.

He married his second wife, Ruth Finch Duke, on June 15, 1985. She survives in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Duke was a minister for the Wesleyan Church, having retired in 1976.

Surviving in addition to his wife are two daughters: Patricia and Everett Troyer of Albion, Indiana, and Sue and Ray Barnwell of Fishers, Indiana; two sons: Perry and Dorothy Duke of Anderson, South Carolina, and James Duke and Aiko Goss of Warrenton, Georgia. Also surviving is one sister, Ruth Patterson of Columbus, Georgia. There are 19 grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews who survive.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his first wife, two sons and four brothers.

Services were Saturday, December 28, 2002, at 10:30 a.m. in Albion Wesleyan Church with Dr. Ray Barnwell and Pastor Dave Earlywine officiating. Burial was Tuesday, December 31, 2002, in Florida Hills Memorial Gardens in Spring Hill, Florida.

Memorials are to Alzheimer's Association of Northern Indiana, 425 North Michigan, South Bend, Indiana 46601.

Jerry Budd

LIGONIER – Jerry L. Budd, 52, died at 5:55 A.M. Tuesday, December 24, 2002, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He had worked at Roy W. Parker & Sons in Kimmell for 26 years. He was a lifetime resident of the Kimmell area.

He was born in Kendallville on May 11, 1950, to Woodward W. and Edna (Leitch) Budd.

He married Robin K. Clouse on June 4, 1976. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Stan E. and Jaired J. Budd, both at home; one sister, Carol Wilson of Albion; and two brothers, Raydean Budd of Fort Wayne and Larry Leitch of Albion.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Richard Budd.

Services were Friday, December 27, 2002 at the Albion Wesleyan Church, with the Rev. David Earlewine officiating. Burial was in Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

For those who wish, memorial may be made to the family.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct information provided by the funeral home.

Ida Rupert

KENDALLVILLE — Ida Irene Rupert, 90, died at 1:48 a.m. Monday, Dec. 30, 2002, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home.

She moved from Fort Wayne to Kendallville in 1958. She retired as a cook at the V&A Restaurant after 20 years. She was a volunteer with the Council on Aging for several years.

She was born in Camden, Ind., on Sept. 6, 1912, to Thomas Edgar and Rose Zetta (Sellers) Evans.

She married Ralph John Rupert Sr. in Fort Wayne on Sept. 27, 1927. He died Oct. 3, 1981.

Also preceding her in death were a son, Robert Rupert, who died Jan. 8, 1992; five grandchildren; one brother, Jessie Dorman Evans, who died in 1992; two half brothers, Russell and Ray Issacs; and one half sister, Alida McMullin.

Surviving are three daughters and one son-in-law, Ruth Waldron and Carolyn Latta, both of Kendallville, and Vivian Jane and Elton Fluke of Waterloo; five sons and three daughters-in-law, Charles Thomas Rupert of Kendallville, Ralph John Rupert Jr. of Skinner Lake, Paul Alan and Ruth Rupert of Ligonier, Keith and Peggy Rupert of Skinner Lake and Gregory and Deena Rupert of Albion; 36 grandchildren; and 42 great-grandchildren.

Services are Friday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Pastor Roger Olson officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling is today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Shepherd of the Hill or to the nutrition site.

Ellen Munk

KENDALLVILLE — Ellen Margaret Munk, 88, formerly of Kendallville, died Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2002, at The Lutheran Nursing Home in Napoleon, Ohio, where she had lived the last three years.

She attended St. John Lutheran School and graduated from Kendallville High School in 1932. She graduated from Western State Teachers College in Kalamazoo, Mich., in 1936. She did graduate work at Western Reserve University in Cleveland and Indiana University. She taught Latin and French at Plainwell High School for three years. She was a member of Business and Professional Women for 25 years and a lifetime member and Sunday school teacher for many years at St. John Lutheran Church in Kendallville.

She was born in Kendallville on April 5, 1914, to Johanna (Rehwinkel) Wills.

She married Max M. Munk on June 19, 1943, in Kendallville. He died April 1, 1990.

Surviving are a son, Michael Munk of Liberty Center, Ohio; four granddaughters, Michele Hazelton and her husband, Phillip, and Stacy Pierce, all of Kendallville, and Amber Munk and Crystal Munk, both of Liberty Center, Ohio; and four great-grandchildren.

Services are Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church in Kendallville, with the Rev. Paul Griebel officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling is Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home.

Debora Bienz

ASHLEY — Debora A. Bienz, 35, of Ashley, died Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2003.

Funeral arrangements are pending at Feller Funeral Home of Waterloo.

Ron Smoots

FORT WAYNE — Ron L. Smoots, 65, died Friday, Dec. 27, 2002, at 1:15 p.m. at his home in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Smoots founded and operated Pic Trics, the first video production house in Fort Wayne. He was a member of the Fort Wayne Advisory Council for Cable Television Programming.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War and a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. While attending Indiana University, he was a member of The Singing Hoosiers.,

He was born Nov. 24, 1937, in Ligonier to Russell and Ophia (Harendeen) Smoots.

He is survived by his wife, Susan (DeLong) Smoots; two daughters, Amy Blaettner and Lesley Douglas, both of Fort Wayne; a son, Todd Smoots of Littleton, Colo.; three granddaughters; two sisters, Linda Frick and Sally Davis, both of Fort Wayne; and a brother, Jim Smoots of Kendallville.

A sister, Sharon Stewart, preceded him in death.

Services were held Tuesday at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, Fort Wayne. The Rev. Jim Keifer officiated. Burial was in Highland Park Cemetery of Fort Wayne.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health and Hospice.

Ilda Adams

LAGRANGE — Ilda M. Adams, 86, died Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2002, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

She was a homemaker and worked at Essex Wire in Ligonier. She was a member of Stroh Church of God.

She was born in Stroh on Oct. 1, 1916, to Joseph and Myrtle (Loghrey) Zook.

She married Jason A. Adams on Dec. 23, 1939, in LaGrange. He died Oct. 3, 1973.

Also preceding her in death were a daughter, Sandra Thacker; a son, Larry Adams; two sisters; and one brother.

Surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Sharon and Phillip Stewart of Howe; two sons and daughters-in-law, Donald D. and Jean Smith of Kendallville and Richard and Emma Adams of Willard, Ohio; 16 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

Services are Friday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with the Rev. Willie Collins officiating. Burial will be at English Prairie Cemetery, Howe.

Calling is today from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Stroh Church of God or Life Care Center of LaGrange.

Kenneth Hochstetler

TOPEKA — Kenneth Lee Hochstetler, infant, was stillborn on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2002, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

Surviving are his parents, Alvin W. and Joanna (Hochstetler) Hochstetler of Topeka; a brother, Matthew D. Hochstetler; grandparents, Jerome and Abbie Hochstetler Jr. of Topeka and William A. and Rosa M. Hochstetler of LaGrange; and his great-grandmother, Verna Eash of Ligonier.

Graveside services were today at 9:30 a.m. at Miller Cemetery, with Bishop Perry Lehman officiating.

Frurip-May Funeral Home of LaGrange was in charge of arrangements.

William Souders

ROME CITY — William C. Souders, 76, died Monday, Dec. 30, 2002, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He had been an educator and school psychologist for the Munster and Lake Central schools. He enjoyed antiques and owned and operated Weekender Antiques in Rome City.

He was born in Anderson on July 19, 1926.

His wife, Ielene M. Souders, survives in Hobart.

Services are Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Home for Funerals in Fort Wayne. Burial will be in Prairie Grove Cemetery.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to Limberlost Public Library, Rome City, or Habitat for Humanity International, 121 Habitat St., Americus, GA 31709-3423.

Services Held

WAWAKA — Services for **Vernon Dale Studebaker**, 76, were held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Ligonier United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Michael Heinbaugh officiating. Burial was in Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Pallbearers were Justin Smith, Greg Smith, Keith Ruppert, Robin Baer, Chuck DeMorrow and Dick Moore.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

LIGONIER — Services for **Richard Fisel**, 79, were held Monday at 2 p.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, with the Rev. Michael Heinbaugh officiating. Burial was in Brown Cemetery, Millersburg.

Pallbearers were Don Burchett, Morris Barrett, Pete Ness, Lawrence Lantz, Stephen Fisel and Marc Fisel.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 3 2003

Bertha Markey

LEO — Bertha M. Markey, 75, died Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2002, at 5:40 p.m. in Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Markey was employed in the cafeteria at St. Joseph Hospital for 17 years, retiring in 1989. She was a former member of St. John Lutheran Church and enjoyed participating in a variety of activities with her family at The Cedars Retirement Home, Leo.

She was born July 12, 1927, in Fort Wayne, to Xavier M. and Selma (Daring) Beckstedt.

Surviving are two daughters, Connie Fullerton of Auburn and Becky Beckman of Fort Wayne; a son, David Markey of Albion; a brother, Bernard Beckstedt of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Anna Navarra of San Francisco, Calif., and Rita Knisley of Monroeville; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert F. "Red" Markey, in 1985 and by a daughter, Jackie Karn, in 1994.

Services will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Homes, Wayne Street Chapel, 420 W. Wayne St., Fort Wayne. The Rev. Lloyd Bickel of Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn, will officiate. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Calling is Saturday from 1-2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Allen Hospice or Erin's House for Grieving Children.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Theodore "Ted" Dickey** were held Dec. 27 at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with Michael Booher officiating. Burial was in South Milford Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Michael Dickey, Michael Lambert, Mark Sipe, Lew Beiswanger, Chris Smith, Eric Sipe, Gary A. Sipe and Josh Dickey.

Debora Bienz

ASHLEY — Debora Ann Bienz, 35, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2003, at her home in Ashley.

Mrs. Bienz worked as an inspector for Ashley Industrial Molding for 12 1/2 years. She attended Independent Full Gospel Church in Ashley and also New Hope Christian Center in Waterloo. She was a 1986 graduate of DeKalb High School.

Mrs. Bienz

She was born Sept. 28, 1967, in Auburn to Jack and Sharon (Yarian) Rennwald. They survive in Waterloo.

She married Floyd Bienz on June 3, 1989, in Leo. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Ty E. Bienz and Brock A. Bienz, both at home; three daughters, Jacquline A. Bienz, Stefany S. Bienz and Ericka R. Bienz, all at home; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Jackie Lynn and Raymond Love of Auburn and Teresa Dawn and Tom Hire of Corunna; her mother-in-law, Judith Bienz of Orland; grandparents Dorothy Squires of Texas and Don Yarian of Garrett; and brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Richard Bienz, Ron and Renee Bienz and Scott and Tracey Bienz.

Services will be held Saturday at 3 p.m. in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with Pastor Robert Pauley officiating.

Calling is today from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Waterloo Cemetery.

Memorials are to the Bienz Children College Education Fund.

Russell Conrad

NEW PORT RICHEY, Fla. — Russell James Conrad, 69, formerly of LaOtto, died Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2003, at his home in New Port Richey.

He retired as a plumber for Century Plumbing in Hudson after 21 years of service. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the Korean conflict. He was a member of American Legion Post 240 in Avilla.

He was born in Ashley and moved from LaOtto to Florida in 1977.

Surviving are his wife of 45 years, Annabelle M. Conrad of New Port Richey; a son, Troy J. Conrad of Hudson; three daughters, Lana Jo Whonsetler and Valerie Sue Nadzam, both of New Port Richey, and Kellie Ann Sykes of Hudson; five sisters, Luella Stabler of Fort Wayne, Virginia Scheurich of Kendallville, Helen Battooletti of Amhurst, Ohio, Alice Egolf of Ashley and Judy Conrad of Fort Wayne; and five grandchildren.

Services are today at 8 p.m. at Thomas B. Dobies Funeral Home in New Port Richey. Burial will be at a later date at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell.

Calling is today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 3 2003

Mrs and Mr. Dafforn

Harry and Mary Dafforn

COLUMBIA CITY — Mary Louise Dafforn, 75, died Sunday, Dec. 29, 2002, in Columbia City. Her husband of 56 years, Harry E., died Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2002, in Columbia City.

The couple were married in Albion on Sept. 30, 1946.

Mary had worked at Dana Corp. in Churubusco. She was a member of the United Methodist Church in Columbia City, Dana Mites and Dana Retirees.

She was born in Albion on June 30, 1927, to Washington and Florence Parker.

Harry was a self-employed farmer. He was also a member of the United Methodist Church in Columbia City. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in World War II. He was a member of American Legion Post 98.

He was born in Allen County on April 30, 1923, to Clarence and Nola Dafforn.

Surviving the couple are two sons and one daughter-in-law, Ronald and Gloria Dafforn and John Dafforn, all of Columbia City; a daughter and son-in-law, Linda Conrad and Ron Eads of Lagro; Mary's brother and sister-in-law, Joseph Lee and Madelynne Parker of Kendallville; Harry's brother and sister-in-law, "T" Gale and Margaret Dafforn of Columbia City; Harry's three sisters and brothers-in-law, Mildred and Harry Sheets and Louis and Darrold Cotterman, all of Columbia City, and Joann and Walter Gaff of Kansas; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Mary was preceded in death by a sister, Mildred Jean Cart; Harry was preceded in death by a brother, Teddy; and the couple were preceded in death by a grandson, Brian Wayne Smith.

Services are Saturday at 3 p.m. at Covington Memorial Funeral Home in Fort Wayne. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens, Fort Wayne.

Calling begins three hours before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Hospice.

Shirley Brown

GRABILL — Shirley F. Brown, 67, died Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2002, at Parkview Hospital.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Groveland, Fla., on May 26, 1935, to Clifford and Frances (Austin) Carmany.

She married Robert Eugene Brown. He survives.

Also surviving are two daughters, Robin L. Carter of Albion and Jeanne M. Lynn of Matthews, N.C.; a brother, Robert Manion of Toledo; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services are Saturday at 3 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home. Burial is in Leo Cemetery.

Calling is one hour before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Lung Association.

Teacher, funeral home partner Linda May dies

LAGRANGE — Linda L. May, 59, died Friday, Jan. 3, 2003, at home. She had cancer for the past two years.

Mrs. May was a first-grade teacher at Lima-Brighton School in Howe and a partner, with her husband and son, in the Frurip-May Funeral Home business.

Mrs. May

She was a member of Psi Iota Xi Sorority, National Education Association, Order of the Eastern Star Sylvan Chapter 251 and Mount Zion Lutheran Church, where she formerly served as youth choir director.

She started teaching six or seven years ago, according to her husband, Lowell E. May.

"She stayed home and raised her family," her husband said. "When her kids graduated and went off to college, so did she."

She was born Nov. 30, 1943, in Kendallville to Hays O. and Erma (Williamson) Huntsman. She married Lowell E. May in Albion on Feb. 15, 1964. They moved to LaGrange in June 1968. He survives.

The Mays purchased partnership in the funeral home in 1973. Mr. Frurip died in 1981, and the couple bought his half of the business.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, LeAnn and Timothy Birky of Kingwood, Texas, and Melissa and Frederick Platt of Gurnee, Ill.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Scott L. and Kathy May of Noblesville and Brian H. and Jennifer May of Wolcottville; and seven grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in LaGrange. The Rev. Stephen Flynn and Carl Bell will officiate. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling is 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday and 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange.

Memorials are to the Lima-Brighton School library or Mount Zion Lutheran Church.

Wayne Laisure

FORT WAYNE — Wayne "Shorty" L. Laisure, 77, died Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2003, at Woodview Healthcare.

Mr. Laisure was an inspector at International Harvester Co. and a native of Corunna. He was a member of New Haven United Methodist Church and Sol D. Bayless Masonic Lodge 359.

He was a World War II U.S. Army veteran and the recipient of six Purple Hearts and a Silver and Bronze star.

Surviving are a son, Larry W. Laisure of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Carolyn R. Brown and Linda L. Mullenhour, both of Fort Wayne; a brother, Wendell Laisure of Indianapolis; a sister, Mary Willms of Orland; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Constance R. Laisure; and four brothers.

Services are 1:30 p.m. today at E. Harper & Son Funeral Home in New Haven. Burial with military graveside services by the U.S. Army will be at Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Memorials are to Alzheimer's Support Group.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 4 2003

The following obituary is being reprinted to update information from the funeral home.

William Souders

ROME CITY — William C. Souders, 76, died Monday, Dec. 30, 2002, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He had been an educator and school psychologist for the Munster and Lake Central schools. He enjoyed antiques and owned and operated Weekender Antiques in Rome City.

He was born in Anderson on July 19, 1926.

His wife, Ielene M. Souders, survives in Rome City.

Graveside services are Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Prairie Grove Cemetery, 6200 Old Trail Road, Fort Wayne.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to Limberlost Public Library in Rome City, or Habitat for Humanity International, 121 Habitat St., Americus, GA 31709-3423.

Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Home for Funerals is in charge of arrangements.

Sherman Healey

ASHLEY — Sherman F. Healey, 87, died Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, at 7:55 a.m. at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Before retirement in 1980, Mr. Healey worked as a barber for 50 years. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Waterloo, the American Rabbit Breeders Association and American Standard Chinchilla Club. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Navy.

He was born Sept. 14, 1915, in LaGrange County to Almon and Edna (Dunithon) Healey.

He married Jeanne Sutton on June 26, 1939, in Angola. She survives.

Also surviving are five sons and three daughters-in-law, Michael and Carol Healey of LaGrange, Jon and Margaret Healey of Stockton, Calif., Dennis and Lynda Healey of Etna, Wyo., Steven Healey of Ashley and Pete Healey and his fiancee, Debbie Prater of Auburn; two daughters and a son-in-law, Teresa and Henry Roark of Angola and Lisa Carpenter of Lake City, Mich.; 11 grandchildren, six stepgrandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and 10 stepgreat-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by five children in infancy and three brothers, Milo, Charles and Carl Healey.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Michael's Catholic Church of rural Waterloo. Father David Carkenord will officiate. Burial will be in St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery.

Calling is one hour prior to services at the church and Monday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo, with a rosary service at 8 p.m.

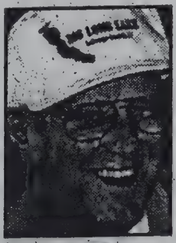
Memorials are to St. Michael's Catholic Church and the American Heart Association.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

George Shomo

HUDSON — George M. Shomo, 83, died Friday, Jan. 3, 2003, at 7:57 p.m. at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

Before retiring in 1966, Mr. Shomo worked at Dana Corp. in Fort Wayne. He was a resident of Hudson and a life member of the National Rifle Association and the Kendallville post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was known as a great father and a generous man.


Mr. Shomo

He was born Sept. 11, 1919, in South Fork, Pa. to Joseph and Martha (Plummer) Shomo.

Surviving are two daughters, Joyce Ellen Marks of Wolcottville and Judy Kaye Shomo of Indianapolis; a son, Joseph G. Shomo of Wolcottville; two brothers, Charles Shomo of Fort Wayne and Joe Shomo of Florida; eight grandchildren, Amy Hasselman, Dawn Parker, Steve Bade, Rick Bade, Mike Neuenschwander, Angela Neuenschwander, Kristina Shomo and Claire Shomo; and two great-grandchildren, Lane Hasselman and Cole Bade.

He was preceded in death by a son, John Shomo; a brother, Ted Shomo; and two sisters, Edith Herdman and Betty Camella.

There will be no services or calling.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health and Hospice, 109 E. Central, LaGrange.

Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to Johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Nancy Hampton

LIGONIER — Nancy A. Hampton, 64, died Friday, Jan. 3, 2003, at 12:45 a.m. at Avalon Village in Ligonier, where she had lived for three years.

A former resident of Goshen, she was a homemaker.

She was born Jan. 18, 1938, in Goshen to Lester and Mary (Poff) Cook. She graduated from Goshen High School.

Surviving are a daughter, Robyn Rarick of Ligonier and a sister, Val Kehr of Plainsfield.

Preceding her in death was a sister, Aline Holbrook.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Oakridge Cemetery in Goshen, following a funeral procession that will leave from the Rieth-Rohrer-Ehret Funeral Home in Goshen at 10:45 a.m. The Rev. John Blosser will officiate.

There will be no calling.

Memorials are to the Noble County Humane Society.

Timothy Boyce

FORT WAYNE — Timothy J. Boyce, 62, died Thurs., Jan. 2, 2003, at Dupont Hospital.

Mr. Boyce was a Fort Wayne native and the president and owner of Review Corp.

Surviving are his wife, Judith M. Boyce; a son, Timothy J. Boyce Jr. of Fort Wayne; three daughters, Jane M. Boyce of Chicago, Laura A. Angelus of Chevy Chase, Md., and Julie L. Boyce of Fort Wayne; two brothers, Jerry Boyce of Fort Wayne and Jim Boyce of Avilla; a sister, Eileen Heminger of Fort Wayne; and two grandchildren.

Services are 10 a.m. Monday at St. Peter Catholic Church in Fort Wayne.

Calling is a half hour before services at the church and today from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home in Fort Wayne, with a vigil service at 4:30 p.m.

Memorials are to Vincent House.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 5 2003

Robert Dame

SILVER LAKE, Ohio — Robert Lee Dame, 77, died Friday, Jan. 3, 2003, at 11:25 p.m. at his home.

Before retirement, Mr. Dame worked at Saint-Gobain Corp. He was a 41-year resident of the Silver Lake area and served in the military during World War II. He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church.

He was born in Garrett to Charles and Catherine (Pausel) Dame.

Surviving are his wife of 54 years, Theresa "Pat" (Miller) Dame; a son and daughter-in-law, Mark and Laura Dame of Stow, Ohio; three grandchildren, Jackie, Nick and Jackson; two brothers, Donald Dame of Garrett and Richard Dame of California; and 19 nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Services are at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Highland Park Cemetery in Fort Wayne with additional services at 10 a.m. Monday at Holy Family Church. Father Mike Ausperk will officiate.

Calling is today from 4 to 7 p.m. at Redmon Funeral Home, with a rosary service at 6:30 p.m.

Memorials are to Hospice of Visiting Nurse Service, 3358 Ridgewood Road, Akron, OH 44333.

Donald Duesler

AUBURN — Donald Duesler, 80, died Friday, Jan. 3, 2003, at 2:45 p.m. in DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Duesler had worked as a farmer in Grant Township, a truck driver, a school bus driver and a limousine driver in Las Vegas before retirement. He was a member of the Waterloo post of Veterans of Foreign Wars and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

He was born Dec. 30, 1922, in Waterloo to Ralph and Clesta (Lahnum) Duesler.

He married Ethel Polite in Auburn on Nov. 27, 1947. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter-in-law, Deb Duesler of Las Vegas; a sister and brother-in-law, Beverly and Richard Dove of Auburn; three grandchildren, Kimberly Sue Seiss of Auburn and Christopher Thomas Duesler and Lindsay Ann Duesler, both of Las Vegas; and two great-grandchildren, Tyson Seiss and Taylor Seiss, both of Auburn.

He was preceded in death by a son, Thomas Wayne Duesler, and a daughter, Vicki Baker.

There will be no services or calling.

Memorials are to St. Jude's Children's Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Elizabeth Daniels

TOPEKA — A. Elizabeth Daniels, 84, died Thursday, Jan. 2, 2003, at Elkhart General Hospital.

Mrs. Daniels was a homemaker and a member of St. John's Lutheran Church at Fish Lake. An Elkhart County native, she was a resident of Topeka and a former resident of Millersburg and Fort Wayne.

Surviving are her husband, Lawrence S. Daniels; two sons, Dennis E. Schrock of St. Charles, Ill., and Philip D. Schrock of South Bend; two brothers, Ernest E. Whirledge and Willis Whirledge, both of Goshen; two sisters, Dorothy E. Bigler of Goshen and Violet R. Mehl of Shipshewana; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a sister and two brothers.

Services are 1 p.m. Monday at St. John's Lutheran Church in Fish Lake. Burial will be at Eden Cemetery in Topeka.

Memorials are to the church or a charity of the donor's choice.

Clinton Varner

FORT WAYNE — Clinton K. Varner, 60, died Friday, Jan. 3, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

Mr. Varner was a Fort Wayne native. He had worked at Zoller Corp. for 37 years and was a member of Zollner's Quarter Century Club and Faith United Church of Christ.

Surviving are his wife, Sharon M. Varner; a daughter, Michelle L. Stillwell of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Joyce Brames of Pleasant Lake and Sharon Radu of Fort Wayne; and three grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Kevin M. Varner, and a sister.

Services are 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home in Fort Wayne. Burial will be at Covington Memorial Gardens.

Calling is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Faith United Church of Christ and the Wayne Roesener Scholarship Fund at Concordia Lutheran High School.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 6 2003

Verne Knight

ADDISON, Mich. — Verne Clifford Knight, 98, died Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, at Vista Grande Villa in Jackson.

He grew up on a farm in Grant County, Ind., and graduated as valedictorian from Warren High School in 1921. He studied two terms at Indiana State Normal School in Muncie. Only 16, he left school and moved to Terry, Mont., where he taught in a one-room school. A year later, he returned to Muncie to finish his education, where he met his future wife.

Mr. Knight

He was a pioneer in the air conditioning business. He started working in the 1920s at Refrigeration Equipment Co. in Fort Wayne, then for McCray Co. in Kendallville, where he was sales manager of the southern states, then chief engineer. He left McCray in 1947 to become vice president of Betz Corp. in Hammond.

He moved to Addison in 1951 to work for Primus Co. By 1963 he was sole owner of the company and changed its name to Addison Products Co. He built a factory in Jonesville in 1956 and expanded the business to Garland, Texas, and Orlando, Fla. The company developed and built dehumidifiers, room air conditioners, residential and commercial air conditioning and space heaters. He held many patents on air conditioning equipment and belonged to many industry organizations.

He held a pilot's license for over 50 years, enjoyed hunting and fishing and took annual trips to Canada, the western U.S. and the Arctic Ocean. He owned a ranch near Sheridan, Wyo., for many years.

Other positions and honors he received include: trustee at Adrian College for many years, honorary doctorates in business administration from Adrian in 1977 and from Hillsdale College in 1983, Entrepreneur of the Year award from Hillsdale in 1988, Silver Knight of Management award from the National Management Association in 1988 and the Sagamore of the Wabash in 1983, the highest award given by the governor of Indiana for service.

He established scholarships in honor of his wife at Adrian, Hillsdale and Spring Arbor and Culver-Stockton in Canton, Mo. They gave financial assistance many to students of Christian studies. Other beneficiaries of his generosity include Bethany Christian Service of Grand Rapids and Knight Civil Center of Warren. The Knight Family Charitable & Educational Foundation was established in 1984 and funds dozens of deserving organizations.

He was a member of several organizations, including the Jackson Country Club, Addison United Church, Devil's Lake Yacht Club and B.P.O.E. of Kendallville.

He was born in Landess, Grant County, Ind., on Aug. 12, 1904, to Charles Luther and Daisie (Farr) Knight.

He married Velma Irene Cain in Fort Wayne on June 30, 1926. She died May 16, 1980.

He was also preceded in death by his son, James A. of Jackson; four brothers, Don, Dale, Mark and Karl; and two sisters, Mildred and Susan Irene.

Surviving are his daughter, Marilyn K. Underhill of Hillsdale; eight grandchildren and their spouses, Diane and Roderick MacLennan of Hillsdale, Linda and Jackie Mosley of Williamston, Laura and Kevin Dully of Southboro, Mass., James A. Knight Jr. of Madison, Wis., Lisa and Adrian Knight-Giuliani of Morganville, N.J., Gerald and Maureen Knight of Ann Arbor, David Knight of Jackson and Carol and Scott Drain of Ann Arbor; 10 great-grandchildren; one sister, Marjorie Gard of Warren; and many nieces and nephews.

Services are Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at Brown-Van Hemert Funeral Home in Addison, with the Rev. Thomas J. Burke Jr. officiating. Burial will be in Hillside Cemetery, Addison.

Calling is Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorials are to the Velma I. Knight Scholarship funds at Adrian College and Hillsdale College.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 6 2003

Farrell Bennett

SHIPSHEWANA — Farrell Bennett, 49, died at 9:45 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, at home. Services are pending at Carney-Frost Funeral Home of LaGrange.

Wendell Lane Sr.

KENDALLVILLE — Wendell C. Lane Sr. of Kendallville died Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, at the Romeo Nursing Center in Romeo, Mich. Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Fred Sleeper

KENDALLVILLE — Fred J. Sleeper, 90, died at 10:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville. Services are pending at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home.

Margaret Hoodelmier

AUBURN — Margaret G. "Peg" Hoodelmier, 95, died today, Jan. 6, 2003, at 5:05 a.m. in Provena Sacred Heart Home at Avilla.

She served as a secretary for her family business, Hoodelmier Coal, retiring in 1977. She was affiliated with the First United Methodist Church of Auburn.

She was born Oct. 4, 1907, in Fort Wayne to John and Margaret (Henderson) O'Neil.

Her husband, Lloyd L. Hoodelmier, died in 1994.

Surviving are three daughters, Janet Heffley of Fort Wayne, Dian Cartwright of Pfafftown, N.C., and Linda Brandon of Marion; a brother, Tom O'Neil of Dearborn, Mich.; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Joe O'Neil, and a sister, Bernadette Richey.

Services will be held Friday at 2 p.m. in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery of Auburn.

Calling is Thursday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Visiting Nurse Service and Hospice.

James Kempf

COLUMBIA CITY — James R. Kempf, 56, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was an inspector for Slater Steels. He was a Vietnam War era veteran.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife, Debra A.; two sons, Christopher L. Kempf of Fort Wayne and Jason R. Kempf of Columbia City; his mother, Elizabeth Schlatter of Fort Wayne; two brothers, Richard Kempf of Fort Wayne and Douglas Kempf of Avilla; and six grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Sharon.

Services are Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Funeral Home, Fort Wayne. Burial will be in Highland Park Cemetery.

Calling is Tuesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Nataly Sheckler

WOLF LAKE — Nataly Lynn Sheckler was stillborn Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are her parents, Justin Marshall and Chastity Lynn Sheckler; her grandparents, Marty and Lana Sheckler and Gary and Rose Gray, all of Albion, and Delania Gray of Fort Wayne; her great-grandparents, Max and Eunice Sheckler and Don and Delores Claxton, all of Columbia City, Mert and Billy Gray of Albion, Steve and Glenda Krider of Altus, Okla., Linda Krider of Duke, Okla., and Bill and Etta Davis of Churubusco.

Graveside services are today at 1 p.m. at Stough Cemetery, Columbia City.

DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, Columbia City, is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@demoneygrimes.com.

A. Elizabeth Daniels

TOPEKA — A. Elizabeth Daniels, 84, died at 4:35 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, 2003, at Elkhart General Hospital.

She was a homemaker. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Fish Lake. She graduated from Millersburg High School in 1936.

She was born in Elkhart County on Sept. 10, 1918, to Leo and Jessie Ethel (Bowman) Whirledge.

She married to Lawrence S. "Larry" Daniels on Jan. 13, 1967. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Dennis E. and Arlene Schrock of St. Charles, Ill., and Philip D. and Sheryl Schrock of South Bend; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two sisters and one brother-in-law, Dorothy E. and James Bigler of Goshen and Violet R. Mehl of Shipshewaha; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Ernest E. and Phyllis Whirledge and Willis "Bud" and Cheri Whirledge, all of Goshen.

She was preceded in death by one sister, Grace Darr; two brothers, Ellis and Calvin Whirledge; and one granddaughter, Valerie Lyn Schrock.

Memorial services are today at 1 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, Fish Lake, with Pastor Bert Pauluhn officiating. Burial will be in Eden Cemetery, Topeka.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to St. John's Lutheran Church or donor's choice.

Nick Riner

MISHAWAKA — Nick Joe Riner, 38, was found dead at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, at his home.

He was a foreman at Georgie Boy Manufacturing. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1983 to 1987.

He was born in Goshen on Dec. 23, 1964, to Jack and Sandra (Rupholdt) Riner.

Surviving are his fiance, Melodie Thomas of Mishawaka; one son, Adam Riner, at home; his mother, Sandra Rupholdt Riner of Granger; his father, Jack Riner of New Haven; and two brothers, Stephen Riner of Granger and Raymond Riner of Hicksville, Ohio.

Services are Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Yoder-Culp Funeral Home in Goshen, with the Rev. Steve Herendeen of Grapevine Fellowship, Rome City, officiating. Burial will be in Oakridge Cemetery.

Calling is Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m. at Yoder-Culp Funeral Home, Goshen.

Memorials are to his son, Adam.

Betty Gerard

LIGONIER — Betty Jean Gerard, 76, died at 11:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, at Oak Leaf Nursing Home.

She was a retired inspector for Johnson Controls. She enjoyed reading. She graduated from Columbia City High School.

She was born in Columbia City on Nov. 8, 1926. She married Robert Gerard in 1949. He preceded her in death in 1972.

Surviving are one son, Jerry Gerard of Syracuse; one brother; one sister; and several nieces and nephews.

Graveside services are Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ellen Margaret Munk** were held Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Paul B. Griebel officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Michael Munk, Phillip Hazelton, Robert Marti, Alfred Rehwinkle, Kent Logan and Albert Rhea.

Hite Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ida Irene Rupert** were held Friday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Burial was at Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Pallbearers were David Rupert, Todd Rupert, Phillip Latta Jr., Christopher Latta, Steven Latta, Phillip Fluke, Elton Fluke Jr., Brad Rupert, Brian Rupert and Mark Vance.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 7 2003

Olive Snyder

ANGOLA — Olive L. Snyder, 93, Angola, died Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital, Auburn.

Mrs. Snyder was born Jan. 6, 1909, in Hicksville, Ohio, to Clarence and Nora (Ayers) Killian. She married Carl Smith in 1925, and he preceded her in death. She was then married to Paul Snyder in 1972, and he also preceded her in death.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Hicksville, Ohio. She was an organist for the United Brethren Church in Hicksville and the Church of Christ in Ashley. She was the organist for the Order of the Eastern Star for 55 years. She was also the organist for the Miss Ohio Pageant.

She was a 50-year member of the Order of the Eastern Star. She was a past worthy matron of the Auburn Order.

Surviving are two daughters, Francis Smith Chomer of Elkhart and Lois Smith Fetzer of Hamilton; two sisters, Marie Clark of Garrett and Bernice Sechler of St. Joe; 11 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, 14 great-great-grandchildren and 19 great-great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Clyde Killian, a sister, Arlene Hurni, a daughter, Mary Jane Smith Richards, a grandson and one great-great-great grandchild.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at First Church of Christ, Hicksville, with Pastor Ken Wellman officiating. Calling is from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. today at Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville, with an Eastern Star service at 6 p.m.

Burial will be in Scipio Cemetery, Allen County.

Maria Bernal

HOWE — Maria Florentina Bernal, 74, died at 7:45 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Mexico on Oct. 4, 1928, to Luareano C. and Ma. Refugio Carranza Hurtado.

Surviving are two sons, Manuel Bernal and Carlos Bernal, both of Howe.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Carney-Frost Funeral Home of Howe is in charge of arrangements.

David Horman

HUDSON — David L. Horman, 48, Hudson, died Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, in LaGrange.

Mr. Horman was born June 6, 1954, in Angola, to Henry and Anne (Pristas) Horman Jr. He was a construction worker.

He was a member of St. Padua Catholic Church, Angola. He enjoyed the outdoors, camping and hiking.

Surviving are a brother, Donald Horman of Pleasant Lake and a sister, Judith Garrett of Blairsville, Ga.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Barbara Conner, on Jan. 2, 2003, and Cathy Stuller in 1982.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola. Calling is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday.

Burial will be in Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola.

Memorials are to the family in care of Don Horman.

Almeda Brooks

ASHLEY — Almeda M. (Mickey) Brooks, 85, Ashley, died Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2003, at St. Likes Hospital, Fort Thomas, Ky.

Service information is pending at Johnson Funeral Home, Hudson.

Fred Sleeper

KENDALLVILLE — Fred J. Sleeper, 90, died at 10:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital after a six-month illness.

He worked for McCray Refrigeration for 25 years, retiring in 1978. He also worked at Flint & Walling for four years and later worked as a greeter at Wal-Mart for 10 years. He was a member of the Kendallville Church of the Nazarene.

He was born in Elkhart on Dec. 1, 1912, to William and Irma (Hammond) Sleeper.

Mr. Sleeper

He married Josephine L. Likes on Dec. 8, 1930, in Elkhart. She died Dec. 26, 1992.

Also preceding him in death were six brothers and one sister.

Surviving are a son, Robert Sleeper of Waterloo; three daughters and one son-in-law, Berdena Smith of Kernersville, N.C., Carolyn Mapes of Kendallville and Charolette and Tom Hart of Kendallville; nine grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren; one brother, Carl Sleeper of Elkhart; and one sister, Georgia Newell of Cassopolis, Mich.

Services are Thursday at 11 a.m. at Kendallville Church of the Nazarene, with the Rev. Dr. Dan Barker, pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Albion, and Kevin Sneed, pastor of Kendallville Church of the Nazarene, officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling is Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the church.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 7 2003

Wendell Lane Sr.

KENDALLVILLE — Wendell Chenney Lane Sr., 94, died Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, at Romeo (Mich.) Nursing Home.

He moved to Kendallville with his family at 3 years of age and lived most of this life in this area. He was a retired building contractor and maintenance supervisor at The Lamplighter. He was a member of Faith United Methodist Church in Kendallville.

He was born in Montpelier, Ohio, on May 25, 1908, to Martin VanBuren and Rose Hannah (Woodward) Lane.

He married Jonnie Ethel Gentry on Nov. 24, 1926. She died Aug. 8, 1995.

Also preceding him in death were a daughter, Betty Lou (Lane) Hulett-Dickson; and a son, Theodore Lane.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Wendell Jr. and Debra Parker Lane of Romeo, Mich.; six grandchildren and their spouses, Brandi, Adam and Wendell III "Trey" Lane, all of Romeo, Richard D. and Chris Hulett of Tavares, Fla., Robin and Barry Haines of Rome City, Teddi and Bill Dunham of Waukegan, Ill.; and six great-grandchildren, Andrea Hulett of Kendallville, Nicolas Hulett of Tavares, Brooke Haines Robinson of Kendallville, Dane Haines of Rome City, and Leslie and Richie Dunham of Waukegan.

Services are Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. James Toole officiating. Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Calling is today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home.

Memorials are to The Lamplighter in Kendallville.

Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

Mahlon Weaver

Mr. Weaver

LAGRANGE — Mahlon Jay Weaver, 72, died at 2:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 6, 2003, at Life Care Center in LaGrange.

He was a butcher for Yoder's Butchering in Goshen for several years and later worked at Dairy Point in Ligonier. He was a member of Eden Worship Center in Topeka.

He was born in Topeka on July 24, 1930, to Irvin and Mary (Miller) Weaver.

He married Verna Ellen Miller on Oct. 27, 1955, in Goshen. She died Feb. 10, 2001.

Also preceding him in death were two brothers, Clarence and Vernon Weaver.

Surviving are three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Irene Yoder of Chesapeake, Va., Katie A. and Lloyd Miller of Goshen and Mary A. and Jack Lennon of Ronks, Pa.; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Edwin and Martha Weaver of Quaker City, Ohio, William and Susan Weaver of Cookeville, Tenn., and Wilmer and Dorothy Weaver of Hartville, Ohio.

Services are Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Eden Worship Center, located in the old Honeyville School building in Honeyville, with the Revs. Harold Gingerich and Alpha Miller officiating. Burial will be in Townline Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling is today from 4 to 8 p.m. at the church.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home of Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Farrell Bennett

LAGRANGE — Farrell R. Bennett, 49, died of natural causes at 9:45 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, at his home.

He worked as a night custodian at Meadowview Elementary School in Shipshewana and was known as "Mr. Fix It." He always had a story to tell, enjoyed volunteering to help anyone in need and enjoyed working with tools.

He was born in Three Rivers, Mich., on Jan. 21, 1953, to Howard Eugene and Julia (Mallo) Bennett.

He married Patricia Musser on June 26, 1976, in Scott. She survives in Shipshewana.

Also surviving are his three sons, Ben Bennett of Shipshewana, Russell Bennett of Muncie and Jason Bennett of Columbia City; his father, Howard E. Bennett of White Pigeon, Mich., his mother, Julia Combs of Rome City; and two brothers and sisters-in-law, Randy and Jackie Bennett of Shipshewana and Bart and Jan Bennett of Elkhart.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Russell and Marie Mallo; a cousin, Rex Mallo; and an uncle, Jim Weagley.

Services are Friday at 3 p.m. at Scott United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Brenda Burnworth officiating. Cremation will follow.

Calling is Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange.

Memorials are to the family or donor's choice.

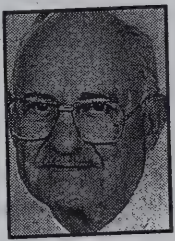
THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 7 2003

Clarence Hessler

COLUMBIA CITY — Clarence William Hessler, 84, formerly of Columbia City, died at 6 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, at Avalon Village in Ligonier, where he had lived the last year.

He completed his education in Delaware, Ohio. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on Nov. 12, 1942, and served in the European Theater. He was awarded a Purple Heart and was honorably discharged on Jan. 22, 1946. Following his discharge, he and his wife lived in several locations, including Coldwater, Mich., before moving to Columbia City after his retirement in 1974.


Mr. Hessler

He was employed as an industrial maintenance mechanic and electrician for 30 years. He was a member of Whitley County Amateur Radio Club and Disabled American Veterans. He received the Whitley County Heart of Gold award in 2002.

He was born in Delaware, Ohio, on Nov. 24, 1918, to Joseph and Bessie (Lumbert) Hessler.

He married Elizabeth Alice Pontzius on Jan. 6, 1942. They made their first home in Muskogee, Okla. She died Dec. 11, 1999.

Also preceding him in death were two sons, John Gilbert and Charles Wayne Hessler; three brothers, Harry Hessler, William Henry Scott and George Richard Richardson.

Surviving are a son, Steven Hessler of Texas; three daughters and sons-in-law, Michelle and Robert McRight of Texas, Nancy and James Hart of Columbia City and Mary and Larry Shepherd of Ligonier; a daughter-in-law, Bonnie Hessler of Charlotte, N.C.; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and three sisters, Juanita Martin, Norma Welch and Lillie Howard, all of Columbus, Ohio.

Services are Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Smith and Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with Pastor Bob Siegrist of Tri Lakes Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in Nolt Cemetery, south of Columbia City.

Calling is today from 4 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Clugston on the Square.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 8 2003

Margaret Repp

FORT WAYNE — Margaret Listenberger Repp, 89, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Dec. 27, 2002, in Kaufman, Texas.

Surviving are a stepdaughter, Lois Keck of Moses Lake, Wash.; and a sister, Helen Fulk of Wolf Lake.

Her husband, Lawrence, and a son preceded her in death.

There are no local services or calling. Burial took place in Buckeye, Ariz.

John Church

KENDALLVILLE — John Alvin Church, 50, died at 7 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2003, at his home. Services are pending at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home.

Robert Gilbert

GARRETT — Robert E. Gilbert, 80, died Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2003, at 1 a.m. in Lutheran Hospital of Fort Wayne.

Mr. Gilbert was employed at Kendallville Foundry, retiring in 1984. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army and attended Life Ministries Church in Garrett.

He was born March 5, 1922, in Rockford, Ohio.

He married Wilma Hathaway in 1946. She died Nov. 28, 1998.

He married Betty Denman on June 27, 1999, and she survives.

Also surviving are three sons, Kenneth Basse of Fort Wayne, Dwight Gilbert of Garrett and Tim Gilbert Sr. of Kendallville; five daughters, Cheryl LeFevre of Angola, Carleen Lepard of Kendallville, Tevera Davis of Creemore, N.C., Deb Gilbert of Garrett and Wanda Gilbert of Auburn; a brother, Harry Gilbert of Garrett; 13 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Danny Maxwell, and a sister, Bea.

Services will be held Friday at 11 a.m. in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo.

Calling is Thursday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Skyler Miller

KENDALLVILLE — Skyler David Scott Miller died shortly after birth on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

He was born to Tyler David Campbell and Erica Dawn Miller.

Surviving with his parents are maternal grandparents Scott and Tamara Miller; paternal grandparents Michael and Jennifer Snyder, and Sam and Carol Campbell, all of Kendallville; maternal great-grandparents, Worley and Alma Gibson of Kendallville, and Paul and Joan Miller of Hudson; paternal great-grandparents, Laura Phillips of Auburn, and Cleo "Bud" Campbell and Helen Snyder, both of Kendallville; three uncles, Jeremy Campbell and Michael and David Taulbee; five stepuncles; and one stepsister.

Preceding him in death were great-grandparents James Phillips, Maxine Campbell and Kenneth Snyder.

Services will be held today at 2 p.m. at the True Church of God in Jesus name in Lisbon. Burial will be in Sweet Cemetery, Albion.

Calling begins two hours before services at the church.

Hite Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Mary Fatzinger

FORT WAYNE — Mary A. Swathwood Fatzinger, 69, died Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker. She was born in Jonesboro.

Surviving are a daughter, Cindy J. Marino of Jeffersonville; a son, Michael G. Fatzinger of Grand Prairie, Texas; her father and stepmother, Floyd O. and Juanita Swathwood of Fort Wayne; three sisters, Marcia A. Needler of Hoffman Estates, Ill., Avinell L. "Abby" Galloway of LaOtto and Kathy K. James of Larwill; and two grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James R. Fatzinger.

Services will be held Thursday at 1 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home. Burial will be in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Calling is today from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. and one hour before services.

Memorials are to Simpson United Methodist Church, Breast Cancer Association or donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 8 2003

Almeda Brooks

ASHLEY — Almeda M. "Mickey" Brooks, 85, died Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2003, at 5:15 a.m., at St. Luke Hospital East, Fort Thomas, Ky.

She moved from Ashley to Highland Heights, Ky., in 1999.

She was born July 24, 1917, in Fort Thomas, Ky., to William H. and Lillian (Smoot) McCormick.

She married Nyal A. Brooks in Newport, Ky., on Dec. 25, 1948. He died Jan. 24, 1999.

A brother, William "Red" McCormick died Feb. 12, 2001.

Calling is Saturday from 11 a.m. to noon, at Johnson Funeral Home, 612 N. Main St., Hudson. A graveside service will follow at Pleasant Lake Cemetery. The Rev. George B. Foulk will officiate.

Condolences may be sent to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Kaye Holden

KENDALLVILLE — Kaye D. Holden, 66, died at 6:50 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville, after a four-month illness.

He worked in construction for J.O. Mory. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

He was born in Kendallville on March 9, 1936, to Kenneth R. and Ethel Aileen (Spice) Holden. His mother survives in Kendallville.

He married Betty Brackeen on Aug. 13, 1957, in Amarillo, Texas. She survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving with his wife and mother are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Kenneth D. and Sherry Holden of Germany, Karl D. and Marlene Holden of Rome City and Keith D. Holden of Churubusco; one daughter, Karen Trowbridge of Kendallville; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Janet Ackers of Reno, Nev., and Sharon Schaffer of Arizona.

Preceding him in death was one sister, Diane Groves.

Graveside services will be held Saturday at 1 p.m. at Orange Cemetery in Rome City.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to American Legion Post 86.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Norma Anderson

FORT WAYNE - Norma Anderson, 85, died Tuesday, December 31, 2002, at Canterbury Nursing Home.

Born in Fort Wayne, she had been a laborer at Ballstran Warehouse for 10 years.

Surviving are two sons, Herbert E. of Merriam and Robert A. of Woodburn; a daughter, Darlene K. Riley of Fort Wayne; 13 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Orton B.

Services will be at 11:00 A.M. Saturday, January 4, 2003, at C.M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home, 1327 Wells St., Fort Wayne, with calling one hour before services. Calling is also from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 P.M. Friday. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens. Memorials to Crescent Avenue United Methodist Church.

Shirley Brown

GRABILL – Shirley F. Brown, 67, died Tuesday, December 31, 2002, at Parkview Hospital.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Groveland, FL, on May 26, 1935, to Clifford and Frances (Austin) Carmany.

She married Robert Eugene Brown. He survives.

Also surviving are two daughters, Robin L. Carter of Albion and Jeanne M. Lynn of Matthews, NC; a brother, Robert Manion of Toledo; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services were Saturday, January 4, 2003 at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home. Burial was in Leo Cemetery.

Memorials are to the American Lung Association.

Linda L. May

LAGRANGE – Linda L. May, 59, of LaGrange, IN, died in her residence on Friday, January 3, 2003.

She was born November 30, 1943 to Hays O. and Erma (Williamson) Huntsman in Kendallville.

She married Lowell E. May on February 15, 1964.

In June 1968 they moved from Albion to LaGrange. She was a first grade teacher at Lima-Brighton School in Howe, IN and partner with her husband and son in th Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange.

She was a member of the Mt. Zion Lutheran Church and former youth choir director; Sylvan Chapter 251 Order of the Eastern Star; Psi Iota Xi Sorority; and National Education Assn.

Mrs. May is survived by her husband, Lowell; two sons and daughters-in-law, Scott L. and Kathy May of Noblesville, and Brian H. and Jennifer May of Wolcottville; two daughters and sons-in-law, LeAnn and Timothy Birky in Kingwood TX, and Melissa and Frederick Platt of Gurnee, IL; and also seven grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents.

Services were held Tuesday, January 7, 2003 at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in LaGrange, with Rev. Stephen Flynn and Rev. Carl Bell officiating. Burial was at Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

For those who wish, memorials are to Lima-Brighton School Library or Mt. Zion Lutheran Church.

Bertha Markey

LEO – Bertha M. Markey, 75, died Tuesday, December 31, 2002, at 5:40 P.M. in Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Markey was employed in the cafeteria at St. Joseph Hospital for 17 years, retiring in 1989. She was a former member of St. John Lutheran Church and enjoyed participating in a variety of activities with her family at The Cedars Retirement Home in Leo.

She was born July 12, 1927, in Fort Wayne, to Xavier M. and Selma (Daring) Beckstedt.

Surviving are two daughters, Connie Fullerton of Auburn and Becky Beckman of Fort Wayne; a son, David Markey of Albion; a brother, Bernard Beckstedt of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Anna Navarra of San Francisco, CA, and Rita Knisley of Monroeville; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert F. "Red" Markey, in 1985 and by a daughter, Jackie Karn, in 1994.

Services were held Saturday, January 4, 2003 at Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Homes, Wayne Street Chapel with the Rev. Lloyd Bickel of Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn officiating. Burial was in Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Memorials are to Allen Hospice or Erin's House for Grieving Children.

Ida Rupert

KENDALLVILLE - Ida Irene Rupert, 90, died at 1:48 A.M. Monday, December 30, 2002, at Shepherd of the Hill Nursing Home.

She moved from Fort Wayne to Kendallville in 1958. She retired as a cook at the V & A Restaurant after 20 years. She was a volunteer with the Council on Aging for several years.

She was born in Camden, IN on September 6, 1912, to Thomas Edgar and Rose Zetta (Sellers) Evans.

She married Ralph John Rupert, Sr. in Fort Wayne on September 27, 1927. He died October 3, 1981.

Surviving are three daughters and one son-in-law, Ruth Waldron and Carolyn Latta, both of Kendallville, and Vivian Jane and Elton Fluke of Waterloo; five sons and three daughters-in-law; Charles Thomas Rupert of Kendallville, Ralph John Rupert, Jr. of Skinner Lake, Paul Alan and Ruth Rupert of Ligonier, Keith and Peggy Rupert of Skinner Lake and Gregory and Deena Rupert of Albion; 36 grandchildren; and 42 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, also preceding her in death were a son, Robert Rupert, who died January 8, 1992 five grandchildren; one brother, Jessie Dorman Evans, who died in 1992; two half-brothers, Russell and Ray Issacs; and one half-sister, Alida McMullin.

Services were Friday, January 3, 2003 at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Vicar Brian Jones of Lutheran Homes officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Memorials are to Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Home or the Nutrition Site.

Nataly Lynn Sheckler

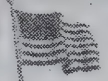
WOLF LAKE – Nataly Lynn Sheckler, was premature stillborn weighing 12.7 oz, 10 inches at 1:34 A.M. Saturday, January 4, 2003 at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne. She was born to Justin Marshall and Chastity Lynn (Gray) Sheckler of Wolf Lake, IN.

"She quietly and quickly left – leaving footprints on everyone's hearts...and her memory will stay with them forever."

Survivors include her parents; grandparents, Marty and Lana Sheckler and, Gary and Rose Gray all of Albion, and Delania Gray in Fort Wayne; great-grandparents: Max and Eunice Sheckler, Columbia City, Mert and Billy Gray, Albion, Don and Delores Claxton, Columbia City, Steve and Glenda Krider, Altus, OK, Linda Krider, Duke, OK and Bill and Etta Davis, Churubusco. Uncles and Aunts include Jeremy Sheckler, Desiree Sheckler both of Albion and Joshua (Amy) Pugh in Bloomington, IN; one cousin, Zach Pugh in Bloomington.

Graveside services were held January 6, 2003 at the Stough Cemetery, Columbia City with Pastor J. Phillip Blake officiating. DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, Columbia City handled the arrangements. For additional information, to sign the memorial book, to view baby photos or to send condolences to the family, please go to www.demoneygrimes.com.

Harry and Mary Dafforn



COLUMBIA CITY – Mary Louise Dafforn, 75, died Sunday, December 29, 2002, in Columbia City. Her husband of 56 years, Harry E., died Tuesday, December, 31, 2002, in Columbia City.

The couple were married in Albion on September 30, 1946.

Mary had worked at Dana Corp. in Churubusco. She was a member of the United Methodist Church in Columbia City, Dana Mites and Dana Retirees.

She was born in Albion on June 30, 1927, to Washington and Florence Parker.

Harry was a self-employed farmer. He was also a member of the United Methodist Church in Columbia City. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in World War II. He was a member of American Legion Post 98.

He was born in Allen County on April 30, 1923, to Clarence and Nola Dafforn.

Surviving the couple are two sons and one daughter-in-law, Ronald and Gloria Dafforn and John Dafforn, all of Columbia City; a daughter and son-in-law, Joseph Lee and Madelynne Parker of Kendallville; Harry's brother and sister-in-law, "T" Gale and Margaret Dafforn of Columbia City; Harry's three sisters and brothers-in-law, Mildred and Harry Sheets and Louis and Darrold Cotterman, all of Columbia City, and Joann and Walter Gaff of Kansas; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Mary was preceded in death by a sister, Mildred Jean Cart; Harry was preceded in death by a brother, Teddy; and the couple were preceded in death by a grandson, Brian Wayne Smith.

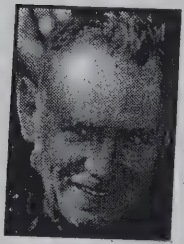
Services were Saturday, January 4, 2003 at Covington Memorial Funeral Home in Fort Wayne. Burial was in Covington Memorial Gardens, Fort Wayne.

Memorials are to Parkview Hospice.

Charles Henderson

LAGRANGE — Charles F. Henderson, 66, LaGrange, died Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2003, at his residence.

Mr. Henderson was born Aug. 23, 1936, in Angola, to Russell F. and Ruth (Locke) Henderson. He married Barbara J. Modert on July 28, 1959, in Orland. She survives.



Mr. Henderson

He had worked as a molder at Northend and Mahoney Foundry in Kendallville. He retired from Mahoney in 1998. He was a member of American Legion Post No. 215.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Paulino Llera of Howe; a son and daughter-in-law, Charles F. Jr. and Laurie Henderson of Coldwater, Mich.; a brother and sister-in-law, Donald and Bonnie Henderson of Angola; a sister and brother-in-law, Jeanette and Dalton Moore of Rome City; two brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Earl and Janice Modert and Dave and Bertha Vorce, all of Bronson, Mich.; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a grandson, Angel Llera.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with Terry Timson officiating. Calling is from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday.

Burial will be in Adams Cemetery, Bronson.

Memorials are to the family of the charity of the donor's choice.

Mildred Hill

PIERCETON — Mildred Louise "Peg" Hill, 86, died at 2:15 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Columbia City.

She attended school in Etna, Churubusco and Pierceton. She was employed at the M&M Restaurant in North Webster. She lived in Pierceton until she entered the nursing home in 1999.

She was born Aug. 17, 1916, to Arthur Newell and Rosa M. (Eisaman) Bills.

She married Ira Raymond Hill on Nov. 22, 1935, in Columbia City. He died March 6, 1983.

Surviving are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Daryle L. and Marlene Hill of Albion, Jimmie D. and Jeannie Hill of Cromwell and Tommy D. Hill of Pierceton; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were a son, Jerry; six brothers, Rolland, Ralph, Ernest, Robert, Charles and Eldon Bills; six sisters, Vera Cummins, Dorothy Dahm, Farrield Bierman, Mary Cummins, Ethel Bills and Ruth Chappel; and two grandchildren, Heather Marshall and Tracy Hills.

Services will be held Saturday at 10 a.m. at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, Columbia City, with Gerald Bills officiating. Burial will be at Thorn Cemetery, Ormas, Noble County.

Calling is Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to donor's choice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@demoneygrinmes.com.

John Church

KENDALLVILLE — John Alvin Church, 50, died at 7 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2003, at his home.

He had moved to Kendallville from Angola about 10 years ago and worked in a factory.

He was born in Ashland, Ky., on Oct. 20, 1952, to Bliss and Margaret (York) Church.

Surviving are eight sisters, Yvonne Payne of Kendallville, Bethel Dickens of Flatwood, Ky., Carrie Opal Ford of Ironton, Ohio, Alva Jean Frazer of Florida, Bernadine Church of Butler, Thelma Kay Church of Florida, Gail Boulware of Columbia City, and Veva Ann Edwards of Buffalo, Mo.; five brothers, Darrell Church of Angola, Danny Paul Church of Albion, Randy Church of West Unity, Ohio, Earnie David Church of Fremont, and Arlie Kevin Church of Hamilton; and several nieces and nephews.

One brother, Bliss Alfred Church, preceded him in death.

Services will be held Friday at 2 p.m. at Lake View Cemetery Chapel, with the Revs. Homer Miller and Forrest Church officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling is Friday from 1:30 to 2 p.m. at the chapel.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 9 2003

Patricia Garriott

WOODBURN — Patricia M. Garriott, 59, died Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

She was a homemaker. She was born in Michigan.

Surviving are her husband, Charles; a daughter, Tina Rekeweg of Kendallville; four sisters, Barb Gent of New Haven, Theresa Cotton of Eddyville, Ky., Joanie Riley of Charlotte, N.C., and Darla Miller of Fort Wayne; two brothers, Mike Schenk of Princeton, Ky., and Jerry Schenk of Fort Wayne; and three grandchildren.

Services will be held Friday at 10 a.m. at Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home, Jacobs Chapel, Monroeville.

Calling is one hour before services.

Memorials are to the family.

Condolences may be e-mailed to funeralinfo@zwickjahn.com.

Shirley DeTar

LAGRANGE — Shirley E. DeTar, 82, formerly of LaGrange, died Saturday, Jan. 4, 2003, at her home at Villas at Sunny Acres in Thornton, Colo.

She was a homemaker. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church in LaGrange.

She was born in LaGrange on Sept. 14, 1920, to Paul R. and Evelyn G. (Chapman) Dunten.

She married Richard F. DeTar on Sept. 21, 1940, in LaGrange. He died Oct. 24, 2000.

Surviving are two sons, Anthony D. DeTar of Fort Wayne and Richard P. DeTar of Denver, Colo.; and four grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a daughter, Lauren Ann DeTar, who died Feb. 22, 1992; and a brother, Jack P. Dunten, who died Dec. 25, 2000.

Graveside services will be held Friday at 1 p.m. at Greenwood Cemetery in LaGrange, with the Rev. Kip Smith officiating.

Calling is today from 6 to 8 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange.

Memorials are to Alzheimer's Association.

THE NEWS SUN
JANUARY 2003
10

LouAnna Mullins

LAGRANGE — LouAnna Mullins, 80, died at 2 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 9, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

She was a homemaker. She came to LaGrange from Clear Creek, Ky., in 1950.

She was born in Lothair, Ky., on Dec. 19, 1922, to Goodloe and Nelli Marie (Cornette) Combs.

Mrs. Mullins

She married Herschel Mullins on Nov. 29, 1949, in Hazard, Ky. He died May 19, 1998.

Surviving are a daughter, Linda Mullins of Sturgis, Mich.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Michael and Belle Mullins of Wolcottville and Charles and Brenda Thacker of Stroh; a sister and brother-in-law, Janet and Aaron Brashear of Williamstown, Ky.; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death was a grandson, Joshua Mullins in 1991; a daughter-in-law, Sandy Thacker in 1992; two brothers and four sisters.

Services are Monday at 11 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, with the Rev. Leburn Combs officiating. Burial will be in Woodruff Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Calling is Sunday from 2 to 6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Life Care Center of LaGrange Memorial Fund.

Mary Birchman

KENDALLVILLE — Mary Ann Birchman, 51, died Monday, Jan. 6, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

She worked at LDM Technologies in Kendallville.

She was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on April 23, 1951, to James and Anne (Daedy) Hannigan.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Kim Birchman of Terre Haute; a daughter, Amanda Birchman of Lafayette; and two grandchildren, Michael and Allison Birchman of Terre Haute.

Preceding her in death was a brother, James Hannigan.

Services are Saturday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with Father Jacob Gall officiating. Burial will be at a later date.

Calling is one hour before services.

Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Fred Sleeper** were held Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Kendallville Church of the Nazarene, with the Rev. Kevin Sneed, and the Rev. Dr. Dan Barker officiating.

Burial was in Lake View Cemetery. Pallbearers were Steve Chapman, Mike Chapman, Bob Hart, Kevin Mertz, James Mapes Jr., Alan Terry, Jackie Johnson and Craig Bottjer.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Wendell Lane** were held Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Jim Toole officiating. Burial was in Woodland Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Pallbearers were Barry Haines, Adam Lane, Trey Lane and Dave Robinson.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 10 2003

Vera Chittenden

BUTLER — Vera L. Chittenden, 75, died Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2003, at 4:10 p.m. in DeKalb Memorial Hospital, Auburn.

She was a homemaker and had lived in Butler for two years. She attended Cedar Lake Church of the Brethren in rural Corunna and was a member of VFW Post 1892 Auxiliary in Garrett.

She was born June 25, 1927, in Fort Wayne to Henry Kohlepp and Nondas Mills.

Surviving are her ex-husband, Donald Chittenden of Auburn; a stepson, Brian Chittenden of Hicksville, Ohio; a stepgrandchild, Kevin Chittenden of Toledo, Ohio; and three nieces and three nephews, all of Minneapolis, Minn.

Mrs. Chittenden

Three sisters, Evelyn Bebil, Beverly Nelson and Kathy Schantzen, preceded her in death.

Services will be held Monday at 1 p.m. in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with Rev. Don Shankster officiating. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery in rural Garrett.

Calling is Monday from noon to 1 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Thomas Funeral Home for funeral expenses.

Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Col. Tom Merritt

LAGRANGE — Col. Tom Merritt, 66, died at 5:10 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2003, as the result of an auto accident near Howe. Arrangements are pending at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe.

Alva Bonar

AUBURN — Alva W. Bonar, 77, of rural Auburn, died Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2003, at noon in Parkview Hospital at Fort Wayne.

Mr. Bonar had worked as a machinist at Dana Corp. for 39 years, retiring in 1989. He served in the U.S. Army until his discharge in 1946. He was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 857 and American Legion Post 82.

He was born in Ohio to Lawrence A. and Gladys E. (Angus) Bonar.

Surviving are his wife, Grace E. (Norris) Bonar; four sons, Terry Bonar of Fort Wayne and Allen Bonar, Ray Dean Bonar and Dustin Bonar, all of Auburn; eight daughters, Violet Klackner of Greenville, Ohio, Denise Love of Huntertown, Darlene Webster and Carola Petty, both of Fort Wayne, Linda Kinley of Kendallville, Sue Miller of New Haven, Freida Parker of Columbia City and Heather Bonar of Auburn; a brother, Fritz Groh of Fort Wayne; 17 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. in C.M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home, 1327 Wells St., Fort Wayne. Burial will be in Cedar Creek Cemetery at Hastings, Mich., with a military graveside service.

Calling is today from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. and Saturday from 10-11 a.m. at the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 11 2003

Tom Merritt

HOWE — Tom S. Merritt, 67, of Howe, a longtime official and superintendent at Howe Military School, died Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2003, in an automobile accident near Howe.

He graduated from Howe Military School in 1953 and attended Purdue University, graduating in 1957. Following military service, he worked for GTE in Terre Haute and Fort Wayne, retiring as a division manager after 38 years. He also retired as superintendent of Howe Military School in 1997, and served on its board of trustees for 37 years. He was historian of the Howe Family Mansion. He was a member of American Legion Post No. 215, Meridian Sun Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons and the Rotary Club, all in LaGrange, and had served as chairman of the United Way. He also belonged to the Summit Club.

Mr. Merritt

He was born Feb. 7, 1935, in Sturgis, Mich., to James and Marian Anna (Davidson) Merritt. On Sept. 5, 1959, he married Barbara H. Keck, and she preceded him in death in 1961. He married Barbara H. Gibson Mesker on April 20, 1963, and she survives in Howe.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Jenifer and James Fairfield of Fort Wayne and Denise Pastore of Terre Haute; a sister and brother-in-law, Judy and Miles Perkins of Stroh; and two granddaughters.

Services will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at Saint James Chapel in Howe, with Bishop Edward Stuart Little II officiating. Calling will be Sunday from 3-7 p.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe, and one hour prior to the church service on Monday.

Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery.

Virginia Moore

KENDALLVILLE — Virginia M. Moore, 84, of Kendallville, died Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2003, at her home.

She had retired from No Sag in Kendallville in 1983, and also worked as a homemaker and farm wife. She was a member of Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church and its Ladies Circle and the Jefferson Township Homemakers Club.

She was born Aug. 12, 1918, in Jefferson Township, Noble County, to Brenton and Viola Loveall. On Oct. 17, 1937, she married Raymond E. Moore at their home, and he preceded her in death Feb. 16, 1985. Two sisters, Helen Roger and Marie Treesh, are also deceased.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Judy and James Shrock of Albion; three sons and daughters-in-law, Kay and Beverly Moore of Elkhart, Keith and Erma Moore of Greensburg and Kent and Vicki Moore of Albion; 15 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Services will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church in Kendallville, with the Rev. Ann Marshall officiating. Calling will be Sunday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion, and one hour prior to services at the church on Monday.

Burial will be in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Kendallville. Memorials are to the church.

Alan 'A.J.' Haas

KENDALLVILLE — Alan "A.J." Haas, 40, of Kendallville, died Thursday, Jan. 9, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He graduated from Harper Creek High School in 1980 and earned an electronics technician degree from DeVry Institute before graduating from Purdue University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering technology. He enjoyed attending school, helping friends and spending time with his family.

He was born May 8, 1962, in Coldwater, Mich., to Howard and Carolee (Davis) Haas. His father survives in Coldwater and his mother and stepfather, Carol and Jim Rowe, survive in Ceresco, Mich.

Also surviving are two daughters, Brittnee Hass of Kendallville and Aubree Haas of New Port Richey, Fla.; his fiance, Laura Knapp, and her children, Jason and Stephanie Knapp of Kendallville; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Carla Cruz, Becky and Joe Koerner and Terri and Rock Kadlub; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Ryan and Michele Rowe and Tim and Val Rowe of Battle Creek, Mich.; his grandmother, Florence Barnes, and her friend, Doyle Sweeney; and several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Services will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at Dutcher Funeral Home in Coldwater, with the Rev. Kelly Hadlick of the Battle Creek Friends Church officiating. Calling will be Sunday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m.

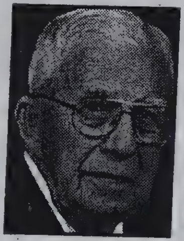
Burial will be in Oak Grove Cemetery in Coldwater. Memorials are to the Epilepsy Foundation or the education trust fund for his daughters. Condolences may be e-mailed to www.dutcherfh.com.

THE NEWS SUN
JANUARY 11 2003

Ora Eash

ELKHART— Ora D. Eash, 90, of Elkhart and formerly of Mishawaka, died Friday, Jan. 10, 2003, at Elkhart General Hospital.

He worked for Krider Nursery in Middlebury for 35 years, and later was owner-operator of Eash Nursery & Garden Center in Elkhart for 10 years. He also worked part-time at Miller Funeral Home in Middlebury for 20 years. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and the Crystal Valley Exchange Club, of which he was a charter member. He and his wife received the Golden Deeds Award in 1985 from the club. He also served on the Middlebury Volunteer Fire Department for 27 years.


Mr. Eash

He was born March 18, 1912, in Millersburg to Noah and Lela (Rink) Eash. On Aug. 11, 1934, in Middlebury, he married Eleanor Swinehart, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Charles and Marjorie Eash and Carl and Diane Eash, all of Middlebury; two sisters, Iona Moore and Betty Nusbaum, both of Middlebury; a brother, Forrest Eash, of Middlebury; three stepgrandchildren; and two stepgreat-grandchildren.

A grandson, Gregory Eash, a stepgrandson, Duane Kotz, a sister, Mary Fackelman, and two brothers, William and Sam Eash, preceded him in death.

Services will be held Monday at 10 a.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Middlebury, with the Rev. James F. Simpson and the Rev. Thomas Herbon officiating. Calling will be Sunday from 2-6 p.m. at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury, and one hour prior to services at the church on Monday.

Burial will be in Sugar Grove Cemetery, Goshen. Memorials are to the church or the Ora Eash Scholarship through the Crystal Valley Exchange Club.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 12 2003

Catherine Mason

ANGOLA — Catherine A. Mason, 82, died Friday, Jan. 10, 2003, at Lakeland Nursing Center, Angola.

Mrs. Mason, a homemaker, attended the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Angola. She was a member and past president of Psi Iota Xi, Rho Chapter, and was a member of Three Rivers Gem and Mineral Society of Fort Wayne and the Indiana State Medical Auxiliary. She also was one of the founders of the Bargain Corner of Angola, and was an avid Bridge player.

She was born in Chicago to Leo and Naomi (Jeserich) Ryan.

She married Dr. Donald G. Mason on June 16, 1944, in Ann Arbor, Mich., and he survives in Angola.

Also surviving are four sons, Donald Mason Jr. of Angola, Gregory R. Mason of Manhattan Beach, Calif., Lee F. Mason of Pleasant Lake and Brian Mason of Woodstock, Ill.; a daughter, Andrea Dieterly of Crestline, Ohio; a brother, Leo Ryan Jr. of Franklin, N.C.; a sister, Naomi Binder of Middleburg, Fla.; and 11 grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Paul Richard Ryan.

No services or calling will be held.

Memorials are to the Steuben County Community Foundation, specifying either the RISE Endowment Fund or the Cameron Memorial Hospital Endowment Fund.

Arrangements are by Weicht Funeral Home in Angola.

Mildred Fike

AUBURN — Mildred A. Fike, 82, died Saturday, Jan. 11, 2003, at Betz Nursing Home, Auburn.

Mrs. Fike, a lifetime DeKalb County resident, worked for a number of years at the Avilla Hardware, Wyatt Hardware, Wee Haven Workshop and as an Avon representative, where she was a member of the President's Club.

She was a member of the Cedar Lake Church of the Brethren in Corunna, Model Home Extension, DeKalb County Extension Homemakers and the Wee Haven Association.

She was born Sept. 27, 1920, in Fort Wayne to John and Theresa Millhouse. Both preceded her in death.

She married Clifford E. Fike on Feb. 4, 1939, in Garrett. He died in 1987.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth and Roxanne Fike of Auburn; a daughter and son-in-law, Carole and Dale Coddington of Osceola; a sister, Dorothea Baysinger of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, John and William Millhouse, and four sisters, Ethel Rice, Corrine Fike, Eileen Mankin and Marie Emerick.

Services will be held Monday at 10 a.m. at Christian Union Brethren in Christ, with Pastor Jerel Book officiating. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery.

Calling is today from 2-5 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 County Road 56, Garrett.

In leiu of flowers, memorials are to Wee Haven Workshop or DeKalb County Extension Homemakers.

John Sherwin

PEMBERVILLE, Ohio — John Keith Sherwin, 79, formerly of Hamilton and Toledo, Ohio, died Friday, Jan. 10, 2003, at St. Charles Hospital.

Mr. Sherwin retired in 1985 from Chrysler Corp. Toledo Machining Plant in Perrysburg, Ohio, as a tool and die maker. He was a World War II U.S. Army Air Corps veteran.

At the age of 73, on April 6, 1996, Mr. Sherwin went through R.I.C.A., where he was baptized and confirmed as a Catholic at St. Michael Church in Waterloo.

Some of his favorite hobbies included cooking, shopping, fishing, golfing and bird watching.

He was born on March 3, 1923, to John and Bessie (Witzman) Sherwin in Toledo. Both preceded him in death.

Surviving are his wife of 59 years, Dorothy (Nowakowski) Sherwin; two sons and a daughter-in-law, John C. and Donna Sherwin, and Mark Sherwin; two daughters and two sons-in-law, Maureen and Bob Garcia and Vicki and Bill Kreinbihl; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a sister, Lucille Parker.

He was preceded in death by three sisters and two brothers.

Services will be held Tuesday at 9:30 a.m., followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Charles Church at 10 a.m. Interment will be at Resurrection Cemetery, Pemberville.

Calling is Monday from 2-9 p.m. at W.K. Sujkowski & Son Funeral Home, Toledo. Wake services will be held at 5 p.m.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 12 2003

Cody Crigger

ST. JOE — Cody Ray Crigger, infant, was stillborn Friday, Jan. 10, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his parents, Darren R. and Lori (Herron) Crigger of St. Joe; his maternal grandmother, Sharon Herron of Churubusco; his paternal grandparents, Don and Betty Crigger of Defiance, Ohio; and his maternal great-grandmother, Virginia McBride of Churubusco.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Gene Herron.

Private family services will be held Tuesday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Lane Burgland, pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, officiating. Interment will be in the Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

Calling is Monday from 4-8 p.m. at the mortuary.

Memorials are to Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
JANUARY 13 2003

Ralph Spaw

KENDALLVILLE — Ralph L. Spaw, 87, died Sunday, Jan. 12, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill.

He was in engineering at International Harvester in Fort Wayne for 42 years, retiring in 1974. He was a lifelong member of Stroh Church of God, Stroh Lions Club and was union president at International Harvester for seven years.

Mr. Spaw

He moved from Fort Wayne to Big Long Lake, Wolcottville, in 1974. Before moving to Shepherd of the Hill, he had lived at Chandler House for a year.

He was born in Columbia City on Sept. 23, 1915, to Frank L. and Bertha J. (Romy) Spaw.

He married Betsy Viola Miller on July 9, 1935, in Hicksville, Ohio. She died Jan. 23, 1998.

Surviving are two daughters and one son-in-law, Eileen Graham of Fort Wayne and Pat and Mark Wilkinson of Big Long Lake; three sons and daughters-in-law, Frank and Marcia Spaw of Big Long Lake, Jerry and Penny Spaw of Avilla and Stephen and Jeanne Spaw of Culver; 14 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; one brother, Melvin Spaw of Fort Wayne and one sister, Leone Davito of Auburn.

He was preceded in death by five sisters, Alma Gipe, Ada Cramer, Nellie Stute, Barbara VanGunten and Lois Kimmel; and two brothers, Deward and Frank E. Spaw; four stepsisters; and two stepbrothers.

Services are Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Pastor Dan Conley of Stroh Church of God officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery, Churubusco.

Calling is Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. and 30 minutes before services.

Memorials are to the Stroh Church of God, P.O. Box 40, Stroh, IN 46789.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 14 2003

Barbara Smith

LIGONIER — Barbara B. Smith, 75, died at 9:12 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, 2003, in Ligonier.

She retired as a laborer with Superior Sample. She was a member of the Ligonier Church of Christ and Stone's Trace Historical Society.

She was born in Detroit on June 8, 1927, to Carl G. and Belle R. (Reed) Handshaw.

Surviving are a brother, Billy R. Handshaw of Coos Bay, Ore.; several nieces and nephews; and many friends.

There are no services. Burial will be at a later date in Cosperville Cemetery.

Calling is Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier.

Edwin Gephart

FORT WAYNE — Edwin Eugene Gephart, 65, formerly of Fort Wayne, died at his home in Troy, Ohio, on Monday, Jan. 13, 2003.

He had worked at Navistar International since 1965.

He was born in Huntington.

Surviving are his wife, Jacqueline M.; three sons, Michael D. Gephart of Auburn, David E. Gephart of Sturgis, Mich., and Jack E. Gephart of LaGrange; a brother, George V. Gephart of Dayton; two sisters, Marybelle Barnes and Carolyn Knop, both of Huntington; and three grandchildren.

Services are Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Baird Funeral Home, Troy, Ohio.

There is no calling.

Marjorie Oster

GARRETT — Marjorie Oster, 90, died at 7:52 a.m. Monday, Jan. 13, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Garrett, where she had lived since July 2002.

She lived in Garrett most of her life. She worked as a clerk at Kirkwood's Men and Boys Store in Kendallville for 15 years. She was a member of the Kendallville Lady Elks and enjoyed playing golf.

She was born in DeKalb County on April 3, 1912, to Frank W. and Laura Bell (Guthrie) McCullough.

She married Karl Raymond Oster on July 20, 1929, in Defiance, Ohio. He died Oct. 17, 2000.

Surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Jo Ann and Richard Kutzner of Auburn; one daughter-in-law, Kay Oster of Garrett; six grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one son, Larry Dean Oster, in March 1991; and two brothers.

Services are Thursday at 2 p.m. at the First Church of Christ in Garrett, with the Rev. Dennis Kutzner, who is her grandson, and the Rev. Lloyd Mealer officiating. Burial will be in Corunna Cemetery.

Calling is Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the American Diabetes Association or the Garrett First Church of Christ.

Morris Hults

CHURUBUSCO — Morris Gilbert Hults, 79, died at 7:35 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12, 2003, in St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He retired as a physics instructor at Indiana-Purdue University at Fort Wayne. He was a member of Churubusco United Methodist Church. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army Air Corps.

Mr. Hults

He was born in Anderson on Oct. 15, 1923, to Edward and Tirzah (Moss) Hults.

He married June Rosemary Trumbull on Feb. 22, 1953, in Churubusco. She survives in Churubusco.

Also surviving are two sons, Ronald Edward Hults of Churubusco and Norman Kent Hults of Fort Wayne; a brother, Malcolm Eugene Hults of Indianapolis; grandchildren, Christopher Barghman and Kule Hults, both of Fort Wayne; great-grandchildren, Katelynne and McKenna Baughman, both of Fort Wayne; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Suzanne Gray, who died in December 1994.

Services are Thursday at 10 a.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Revs. Dean Trumbull and Chris Newman-Jacobs officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Calling is Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Churubusco United Methodist Church or the American Heart Association.

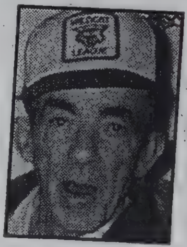
THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 14 2003

Edgel Conley

FORT WAYNE — Edgel Conley, 78, died at 11:37 a.m. Monday, Jan. 13, 2003, in St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He had lived at Byron Health Center since 1999. He had been a foundry worker in Kendallville. He moved to Fort Wayne from Rome City.


Mr. Conley

He was born in Knott County, Ky., on Jan. 6, 1925, to Thee and Laura (Neely) Conley.

Surviving are four sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Betty Conley of Angola, Johnny and Shirley Conley of Howe, Bill and Rodella Conley of Wawaka, and Rusty and Teresa Conley of South Milford; two daughters and one son-in-law, Janie and Dowine Tucker of Rome City and Charlotte Lewis of Wolcottville; a granddaughter he raised, Michelle Welch of Wolcottville; 21 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by six brothers and five sisters.

Services are Friday at 1 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home, Wolcottville, with Pastor Claude Shepherd officiating. Burial will be in Brushy Chapel Cemetery, LaGrange County.

Calling is Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Dale Goodwin

NEW HAVEN — Dale A. Goodwin, 76, died Saturday, Jan. 11, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was an inspector at International Harvester, retiring in 1981 after 37 years.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara; a daughter, LuAnn Middleton of Fort Wayne; three sons, Dave, Greg and Gary Goodwin, all of Fort Wayne; a stepson, Jeffery Barr of White Heath, Ill.; two sisters, Virginia Hale of Angola and Josephine Barker of Kendallville; nine grandchildren; and two stepgrandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Joanne, who died in 1986.

Services are Thursday at 1 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, New Haven. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Calling is Wednesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at E. Harper & Son Funeral Home, New Haven, and 30 minutes before services at the church.

Memorial are to St. John's Catholic School Athletic Department, American Heart Association or American Lung Association of Northeast Indiana.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 15 2003

Paul Johnston

BEDFORD — Paul Johnston, 87, of Bedford, died Friday, Jan. 10, 2003, in the Core Nursing Home.

Mr. Johnston had worked for General Telephone in Fort Wayne as a test man and dispatcher for 31 years, retiring in 1973. He was a graduate of North Side High School in Fort Wayne.

He was a member of the Auburn Church of Christ, a 54-year honor member of Masonic Lodge 614 at Ashley and a 62-year member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

He was born July 7, 1915, in Fort Wayne to Glenn W. and Margaret (Hilderbrand) Johnston.

Surviving are a daughter, Barbara Frye of Bloomington; a son, Kenneth Johnston of Syracuse; 10 grandchildren, Rick Jackson of Rome City, Vickie Jackson of Churubusco, John M. Frye of Bloomington, Kenneth P. Johnston of Westville, Cheryl L. Elkins, Corinne F. Tracy, Kimberly R. Johnston and Michelle Coates, all of Syracuse, Michael D. Johnson of Fort Wayne and Annette Haney of Ossian; 28 great-grandchildren; one sister, Billie Turner of Chicago; three nephews, Robert C. Johnston of Washington state, Terry Johnston of Newburgh and Keith Johnston of East Peoria, Ill.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Maxine (Covert) Johnston; one infant son; one grandson; two brothers, Wayne Johnston and Gene Johnston; and two sisters, Jeanette Johnston and Dorothy Johnston.

The body will be cremated, with burial at a later date in Greenlawn Cemetery at Fort Wayne. There will be no calling.

Deremiah-Friday Mortuary Greene & Harrell Chapel of Bloomington and Elzey Patterson Roadak Funeral Home of Fort Wayne are charge of arrangements.

ALBION NEW ERA
JANUARY 15 2003

Mildred Hill

PIERCETON – Mildred Louise "Peg" Hill, 86, of Pierceton, died Tuesday, January 7, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor.

She had worked for M & M Restaurant in North Webster and attended schools in Etna, Churubusco and Pierceton.

Surviving are sons, Daryle L. of Albion, Jimmie D. of Cromwell and Tommy D. of Pierceton; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ira R., a son, Jerry, six brothers and six sisters.

Services were Saturday at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, Columbia City. Burial at Thorn Cemetery, Ormas. Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Violet Graves

FORT WAYNE — Violet M. Graves, 81, of Fort Wayne, died Friday, December 27, 2002, at St. Joseph Hospital.

The Merriam native was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. She had worked at Magnavox Corporation before retiring in 1983. She had also worked at Ballastran Co. and General Electric.

Surviving are her son, John G. of Avon, six grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Services were December 30, 2002 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne. C. M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Burial was at Merriam Christian Chapel Cemetery in Noble County.

Memorials are to the church or to Cancer Services of Allen County

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 16 2003

Veda Kimmell

WAWAKA — Veda P. Kimmell, 91, died Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Before retirement, Mrs. Kimmell was a factory worker at Essex Wire in Ligonier and a homemaker. She was a member of Brimfield United Methodist Church.

She was born June 15, 1911, to Andrew and Grace (Forker) Grunden in Woodruff. She married Paul W. Kimmell on April 21, 1928, in Albion. He preceded her in death on Oct. 13, 1987.

Surviving are eight daughters and five sons-in-law, Betty Jane and Richard Smith of Kendallville, Eva Bea Bahls of Kendallville, Lavorna and Richard Fulk of Rome City, Phyllis and Rex Cole of Albion, Ola Crain of Elkhart, Sandra L. and Jerry Groves of Albion, Sharon and Ron Karlstadt of Ney, Ohio, and Gloria Kimmell of Wawaka; two sons, Cecil Kimmell of Leesburg, Fla., and Frank Kimmell of Columbia City; 30 grandchildren; 48 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Lavorna Strey of Decatur.

Also preceding her in death are six grandchildren; a brother, Donald Grunden; a son-in-law, Donald Bahls; and a daughter-in-law, Joanne Kimmell.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville. The Rev. Mike Neff will officiate. Burial will be at Orange Township Cemetery in Brimfield.

Calling will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Brimfield United Methodist Church or to the donor's choice.

Send condolences or sign the guest register book at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Garneta Arklie

ORANGE, Calif. — Garneta F. Arklie, 89, formerly of LaGrange County, died Saturday, Jan. 11, 2003, at Town and Country Manor, Santa Ana.

She was retired from Ross Laboratory in Sturgis, Mich. She lived most of her life in LaGrange County before moving to California in 2000. She was a member of Brighton Chapel.

She was born in Lima Township, LaGrange County, on Jan. 28, 1913, to Ray and Flo (Wagoner) Gunthorp. She married John V. Arklie on Sept. 29, 1934, in LaGrange. He preceded her in death on Jan. 16, 1980.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Constance and Gary Whitcomb of Angola, Ind., and Greenville, S.C., and Andrea and Robert Byrnes of Orange, Calif.; two sisters, Dorothy Holmes of Belleville, Mich., and Leora Swihart of Fort Myers, Fla.; eight grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were two sisters, Pauline Johnston and Carol Waterous; and four brothers, John, Homer, Clarence and Donald Gunthorp.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Brighton Chapel in Brighton, Ind., with the Rev. Jeremy Helmuth officiating. Burial will be in Brighton Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Brighton Chapel.

Frurip-May Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ralph L. Spaw** were held Wednesday at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Pastor Dan Conley officiating. Burial was in Eel River Cemetery, Churubusco.

Pallbearers were Terry Holsinger, Shawn Spaw, Jeff Spaw, Jerry Spaw Jr., Chris Spaw and Mark Wilkinson.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 17 2003

Delbert Rink

HOWE — Delbert N. Rink, 84, of Howe died Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2003.

He was a self-employed plumber and electrician. He also worked at the Kirsch Co., retiring in 1982 after 31 years. He lived in Constantine, Mich., for 37 years, between 1945 and 1982. He was a former member of both the Three Rivers and Angola Moose Lodges and the Angola Elks Lodge.

He was born in Goshen May 17, 1918, to George E. and Clara (Berkey) Rink.

He married Louvena Collinsworth June 17, 1939. She died Feb. 2, 1979. He married Alma Frantz in Constantine in September 1981. She died Nov. 27, 1982.

Surviving are two daughters and one son-in-law, Carol and Fred Neubert of White Pigeon and Linda Swinehart of Howe; two sons and daughters-in-law, Larry and Jeanie Rink of Constantine and Elwood and Phyllis Rink of White Pigeon; 12 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; a brother, Lamar Rink of Three Rivers; and two sisters, Geraldine Garbrick of Three Rivers and Maxine Comer of Goshen.

Besides his parents and wives, he was preceded in death by sister, Blanche Collinsworth; a brother, Paul Rink; and a great-grandson, Comeron Herman.

Services are Monday at 2 p.m. at the Eley Funeral Home in Constantine, with the Rev. Gary Henkel officiating. Burial will be in the Constantine Cemetery.

Calling is Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m.

Memorial are to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Sister Bridgett Brett

AVILLA — Sister Bridgett Mary Brett O.S.F., 87, died at 4:35 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home.

She was a Franciscan Sister of the Sacred Heart for 57 years. She had lived in Avilla since 1998.

She was born in Ballycumber Offaly, Ireland, on Nov. 24, 1915, to Martin F. and Bridget Mary (Henneberry) Brett.

Services are Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at Provena Sacred Heart Home Chapel, with Father Daniel Leeuw officiating. Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Cemetery.

Calling is Friday after 2 p.m., with a wake service at 7 p.m.

Memorials are to Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart Senior Sisters Retirement Fund, 9201 W. St. Francis Road, Frankfort, IL 60423-8335.

Brazzell Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Ralph Driver

LAGRANGE — Ralph H. Driver, 81, died at 4:25 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2003, at Miller Merry Manor Nursing Home.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He earned a master's degree from the University of Michigan and had worked as an aeronautical engineer.

He was born in LaGrange Aug. 9, 1921, to Harry and Ethel (Griffith) Driver.

Surviving are two nieces, Candice Goad of Martin, Tenn., and Leslie Ann Hume of Smyrna, Del.; one nephew, David Driver of Bathe, Maine; and one brother, Robert L. Driver of Union City, Tenn.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange is in charge of arrangements.

Beverly Mills

FORT WAYNE — Beverly Goldsmith Mills, 45, of Fort Wayne, died at her home at 3:15 a.m. today, Jan. 17, 2003, after a lengthy illness. Her husband, Michael, survives.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Services Held

GARRETT — Services for **Marjorie Oster** were held Thursday at 2 p.m. at the First Church of Christ in Garrett, with the Revs. Dennis Kutzner and Lloyd Mealer officiating. Burial was in Corunna Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Kim Oster, Terry Dean, Joe Salyer, Kerry Oster, John Bodey and Kerry Shultz.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home of Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 18 2003

Ralph Bair

CHURUBUSCO — Ralph Lee Bair, 83, of Churubusco, died at 11:40 a.m. Friday, Jan. 17, 2003, at Parkview Whitley Hospital in Columbia City. He had been in declining health and entered the hospital Monday.

Mr. Bair

He was born Sept. 14, 1919, in Noble Township, Noble County, to Ebony and Ada (Haney) Bair. He graduated from Churubusco High School in 1939 and served in the U.S. Army in World War II.

He married Pauline Keister on March 29, 1941, and they spent most of their lives on a farm in Green Township, Noble County, retiring nearly 15 years ago. He and his wife moved to Churubusco in 1993.

Surviving are his wife; two sons and daughters-in-law Keith and Dee Bair and Curt and Diane Bair, all of Churubusco; two daughters and a son-in-law, Connie Bair of Churubusco and Paula and Bill Shultz of Albion; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Pauline and Robert Delanoy of Albion, Nora Jane Bair of Churubusco, and Mary Lois and Edward Edwards of Albion; two brothers and a sister-in-law, Paul Bair Sr., and Lynn E. and Anita Bair, all of Churubusco; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Merriam Christian Chapel with the Rev. Terry L. Zolman officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Calling is at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco from 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday and one hour prior to the service at the church.

Memorials are to the Merriam Christian Chapel Mission Fund or the church building fund.

The following obituary is being reprinted to include additional information.

Veda Kimmell

WAWAKA — Veda P. Kimmell, 91, died Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Before retirement, Mrs. Kimmell was a factory worker at Essex Wire in Ligonier and a homemaker. She was a member of Brimfield United Methodist Church.

She was born June 15, 1911, to Andrew and Grace (Forker) Grunden in Woodruff. She married Paul W. Kimmell on April 21, 1928, in Albion. He preceded her in death on Oct. 13, 1987.

Surviving are eight daughters and five sons-in-law, Betty Jane and Richard Smith of Kendallville, Eva Bea Bahls of Kendallville, Lavorna and Richard Fulk of Rome City, Phyllis and Rex Cole of Albion, Ola Crain of Elkhart, Sandra L. and Jerry Groves of Albion, Sharon and Ron Karlstadt of Ney, Ohio, and Gloria Kimmell of Wawaka; two sons, Cecil Kimmell of Leesburg, Fla., and Frank Kimmell of Columbia City; 30 grandchildren; 48 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Lavorna Strey of Decatur.

Also preceding her in death are six grandchildren; a brother, Donald Grunden; a son, John P. Kimmell; a son-in-law, Donald Bahls; and a daughter-in-law, Joanne Kimmell.

Services will be at 11 a.m. today at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville. The Rev. Mike Neff will officiate. Burial will be at Orange Township Cemetery in Brimfield.

Memorials are to Brimfield United Methodist Church or to the donor's choice.

Send condolences or sign the guest register book at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

William Grate

LAGRANGE — William B. Grate, 52, died Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2003, at his home in Omaha, Neb.

A native and former resident of LaGrange, he was a carnival ride operator and he never married.

He was born Oct. 19, 1950, to Ora F. Sr. and Dora L. (Waters) Grate. They preceded him in death.

Surviving are three sisters and brothers-in-law, Mary and Robert Thalheimer of LaGrange; and Viola Lee and James Davidson and Shirley and Shane Hoover, all of Wabash, and a brother, Ora F. Grate Jr. of South Bend.

Graveside services and burial will be at a later date in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange. Local arrangements are by Frurip-May Funeral Home.

Roy Nichols

SOUTH MILFORD — Roy Nichols died Friday, Jan. 17, 2003, in the emergency room of Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

Among his survivors are his wife, Bea; a son, Ron; and two daughters, Nancy Strater and Diane Nichols.

Funeral arrangements are pending at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 18 2003

Beverly Mills

FORT WAYNE — Beverly Goldsmith Mills, 45, of Fort Wayne, died at 3:15 a.m. Friday, Jan. 17, 2003, following a lengthy illness.

A Realtor, she worked actively in Noble County and had many friends. She was a member of the Fort Wayne Area Association of Realtors, and Executive Women International.

Mrs. Mills

She was born Sept. 1, 1957, in Napoleon, Ohio, to the Rev. Wayne D. and Mary McCurdy Goldsmith. She moved with her parents to Fort Wayne in 1970, graduated from Northrop High School in 1975 and Indiana Wesleyan University in 1979. She married Michael E. Mills on June 8, 1990. She completed her master's degree at Indiana Wesleyan University in 1993, graduating magna cume laude.

A former registered nurse and division director at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne for 18 years, she worked the past four years at Coldwell Banker Roth Wehrly Graber Realtors with the Gold Team.

Survivors include her husband and parents; one son, Jason Steiner, at home; three daughters, Sara Steiner, Ashley Mills and Lauren Mills, all at home; one sister, Beth Goldsmith of Fort Wayne; and one brother, Mark Goldsmith of Hillsdale, Mich.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Blackhawk Baptist Church, Fort Wayne.

Calling will be at the church Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7:30 to 9 p.m., and one hour prior to the service Tuesday. There will be no calling Monday at the request of the family.

Memorials are to the Indiana University Cancer Center — Breast Cancer Research, 535 Barnhill Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46020.

Funeral arrangements are by Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco.

THE NEWS SUN

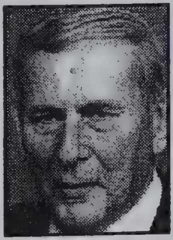
JANUARY 19 2003

Roy Nichols

SOUTH MILFORD — Roy Albert Nichols, 81, of South Milford, died Friday, Jan. 17, 2003, at the emergency room at Parkview Noble Hospital.

He was born March 8, 1921, in South Milford to Florence G. (Helmer) and Earl W. Nichols.

He married Beatrice Ellen (Bahls) Nichols on June 22, 1947, at Zion Lutheran Church, near Corunna.



Nichols

He was a lifetime farmer and worked at Kraft Foods in Kendallville for 19 years before he retired in 1985. He was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church. He was Grand Marshal of the South Milford Days Parade.

His longtime passion was with the South Milford Volunteer Fire Department.

He was a volunteer, since 1948, of the fire department and one of its original founding members. In June 2000 he was awarded the Governor's Service Award by the State of Indiana for his dedicated service to the South Milford Volunteer Fire Department.

Surviving are his wife; two daughters and a son-in-law, Nancy and Daniel Strater of South Milford, and Dianne Nichols of South Milford; one son and daughter-in-law, Ronald and Tammi Nichols of South Milford; three grandsons, Michael and Ruth Strater of South Milford, Timothy and Jeni Strater of South Milford, and James Nichols of South Milford; two granddaughters, Lori Strater of Kendallville, and Shannon Nichols of South Milford; three great-grandchildren, Morina and Brandon Strater and Kyle Lepper.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday at Zion Lutheran Church near Corunna with the Rev. Al Wingfield officiating and Vicar Daniel Skillman assisting.

Visitation will be at 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, and also on Tuesday at the church one hour prior to the funeral service.

Burial will be at Zion Lutheran West Fairfield Cemetery.

Memorials are to Zion Lutheran Church Building Fund or to the South Milford Volunteer Fire Department.

Send condolences or sign the guest register book at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Coralee Davis

AUBURN — Coralee "Trixie" (Vanover) Davis, 43, of Auburn, died at 6:37 p.m. Friday, Jan. 17, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

She had worked at TI Automotive in Ashley and was known and loved for her sense of humor.

She was born on Sept. 21, 1959, in Auburn to Betty Irene (Miller) and Charles Henry Vanover.

Surviving are one son, Bryan and Brandi McKean of Norfolk, Va.; four brothers and a sister-in-law, Charles and Rhonda Vanover of Pleasant Lake, James Vanover of St. Joe, Morris Vanover of Hamilton, and Edward Vanover of Butler; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Debbie and Greg Zerkle of Angola, and Judy Mack of Derry, Pa.

Preceding her in death are her father and her grandmother Beulah Smith.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Alvarado United Methodist Church in Metz. The Rev. Mike Halferty will officiate.

Calling will be at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo from 1 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday.

Burial will take place at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Metz.

Memorials are to the family.

Send condolences to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Haven Post

STURGIS, MICH. — Haven E. Post, 65, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, at her residence.

A former resident of LaGrange County he moved to Sturgis in 1982. He worked for 32 years at Sealed Power/SPX, LaGrange, before retiring. A veteran of the US Army he was also a member of the Orland American Legion Post, Moose Lodge of Sturgis, Mich., and life member of the North American Hunting Club. He was also an avid card player.

He was born Oct. 9, 1937, in Latty, Ohio, to James O. and Velva V. (Franklin) Post.

He married Joan M. (Grogg) Post on March 7, 1973, in Watseka, Ill.

Surviving are his wife; his mother; one son, James F. and Karen Lounsbury of LaGrange; two sisters, Mrs. Valeria and Marvin Gordon of Green Valley, Ariz., and Mrs. Lorraine and David Weber of Kendallville; two grandchildren, Joshua J. and Beth Lounsbury of Sturgis, Mich., and Mrs. Thodd (Tara) Marks of Waterloo; and one great-grandchild, Kole J. Loundsbury of Sturgis, Mich.

Preceding him in death are his father, and one brother, James D. Post.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with the Rev. Dexter Garman officiating.

Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery in Howe.

Visitation hours will be at the funeral home at 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday.

Memorials are to 1st United Methodist Church of LaGrange.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 20 2003

Leonard Walter Jr.

Mr. Walter

ROME CITY — Leonard C. Walter Jr., 67, died at 6:41 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, at his home. He had been ill for the last five years.

He had moved from Fort Wayne 43 years ago. He worked as a drycleaner for 22 years and in maintenance at A-1 Production for 22 years, retiring in 1997. He attended South Milford Church of Christ.

He was born in Fort Wayne on June 14, 1935, to Leonard C. Sr. and Lucille (Moses) Walter.

He married Dorothy Sweet on Dec. 19, 1959, at Woodruff Grove Church. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Jodi and Brad Cooper; two sons and daughters-in-law, Eric and Judy Walter of Rome City and Len and Michelle Walter of Wolcottville; 10 grandchildren; and one sister, Marylin Donat of Rome City.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at South Milford Church of Christ, with Michael Booher officiating. Burial will be in Woodruff Cemetery near Wolcottville.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Building Blocks in care of the South Milford Church of Christ.

Imogene Woods

FORT WAYNE — Imogene D. Woods, 79, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Thursday, Jan. 16, 2003, at her home in Las Lunas, N.M.

She was a homemaker.

Surviving are a son, Eugene Woods of Wolcottville; a daughter, Rosalind Perea of Peralta, N.M.; a sister, Alice L. Lovell of Fort Wayne; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Her husband, William E. Woods, preceded her in death in 1975.

Services will be Tuesday at 10 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home. Burial will be in Cedar Creek Cemetery, DeKalb County.

Calling will be today from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorials are to Heartland Home Health Care & Hospice, Parkinson's Association or the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Veda P. Kimmell** were Saturday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Michael Neff officiating. Burial was in Orange Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Rex Cole Jr., Mike Smith, Rick Fulk, Gary Groves, Rainer Kimmell, David Bahls, Charles Crain, Dan Karlstadt and Frank Kimmell.

Patricia Nodine

GARRETT — Patricia A. Nodine, 69, died Sunday, Jan. 19, 2003, at 12:49 p.m. at her home.

Mrs. Nodine served as a licensed practical nurse at several hospitals and nursing homes in the area. She was one of the first female emergency medical technicians in the area.

She was a 52-year resident of Garrett and a member of the Garrett Presbyterian Church and Indiana Nursing Society.

She was born Feb. 4, 1933, in Portland, Ind., to Orville and Margaret (Haley) Rhodes.

She married Glen G. Nodine on April 15, 1950, in Angola. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Michael Nodine and Jon Nodine, both of Garrett; a daughter, Cynthia DeWitt of Auburn and Ralana Pontius of Kendallville; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Her parents and a sister, Cynthia Rhodes, preceded her in death.

Services will be held Wednesday at 10 a.m. in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett. Pastor David Farling will officiate. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

Calling is Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Memorials are to cerebral palsy.

Mabel Ray

LAOTTO — Mabel C. Ray, 86, of rural LaOtto, died early Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, at McAllen Medical Center in McAllen, Texas.

Her husband, Clyde, survives.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco. Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 21 2003

Carolyn Russell

KENDALLVILLE — Carolyn Sue "Cane" Russell, 40, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003.

Miss Russell

She was a 1982 graduate of East Noble High School, a member of Eagles Auxiliary 985 in Kendallville, a Kendallville Eagles shuffleboard team and was an avid fan of I.U. basketball, Chicago Cubs baseball and Chicago Bears football.

She was born in Kendallvile Sept. 3, 1962, to James Paul and Rosa (Heileman) Russell. Her mother survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are three brothers, Jimmy Russell of Carthage, Ill., Terry Russell of Wolcottville and Paul Jones of St. Louis, Mich.; and five sisters, Lydia Bolen of Kendallville, Dolly Bolen of Wolcottville, Mary Kay Smith of Fort Wayne, Betty "Betsy" Russell of Kendallville and Patty Laisure of Avilla.

Preceding her in death was her father, who died Aug. 15, 1976; three brothers; and two sisters.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Five Corners Baptist Church, two miles north of Wolcottville on the west side of S.R. 9, with the Revs. Clarence Combs and Lee Combs officiating. Burial will be in Sweet Cemetery near Albion.

Calling will be Wednesday after 2 p.m. at the church.

Hite Funeral Home of Kendallville is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

Mildred Deetz

CHURUBUSCO — Mildred I. "Peg" Deetz, 95, died at 6:20 a.m. Monday, Jan. 20, 2003, in Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

Mrs. Deetz

She was a homemaker and laborer at General Electric and McCray Refrigeration. She was a member of Faith Lutheran Church of Churubusco, Colonial Club and Swan Eel Club. She enjoyed playing cards, quilting and watching I.U. basketball.

She was born in Noble County on March 2, 1907, to David M. and Libbie F. (Wehrly) Schultz.

She married Willis K. Deetz on Feb. 23, 1929, in Fort Wayne. He died March 2, 1978.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Marilyn "Sue" and Eugene Striggle of Churubusco, Peggy and Richard Soringer of Angola and Nancy Gordon of Kendallville; two sons and daughters-in-law, Robert and Darla Deetz of Woodburn and Thomas and Shirley Deetz of New Haven; 22 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death besides her parents and husband were one son, Larry Deetz; three brothers; and three sisters.

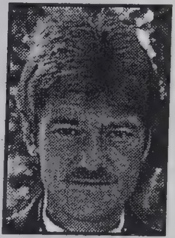
Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, with Dr. Lane Burgland officiating. Burial will be in Fairfield Center Cemetery, Corunna.

Calling will be Wednesday from 1 to 4 and 5 to 8 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Churubusco and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Faith Lutheran Church, 9251 E. S.R. 205, Churubusco.

Donald Russell

AVILLA — Donald Wayne "Bird Dog" Russell, 43, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, at his home.



Mr. Russell

He had worked at Frick Lumber in Brimfield for 18 years. He was a member of Eagles Lodge 985 in Kendallville and an avid I.U. fan and enjoyed playing shuffleboard.

He was born in St. Louis, Mo., on Sept. 14, 1959, to James Paul and Rosa (Heileman), Russell. His mother survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are two daughters, Tiffany Clements of Brimfield and Jessica Marie Russell of Avilla; one son, Jack Clements of Kendallville; three brothers, Jimmy Russell of Carthage, Ill., Terry Russell of Wolcottville and Paul Jones of St. Louis, Mich.; five sisters, Lydia Bolen of Kendallville, Dolly Bolen of Wolcottville, Mary Kay Smith of Fort Wayne, Betty "Betsy" Russell of Kendallville and Patty Laisure of Avilla; and his ex-wife Anita Gohn Russell of Wolcottville.

Preceding him in death were his father, who died Aug. 15, 1976; two brothers; and three sisters.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Five Corners Baptist Church, two miles north of Wolcottville on the west side of S.R. 9, with the Revs. Clarence Combs and Lee Combs officiating. Burial will be in Sweet Cemetery near Albion.

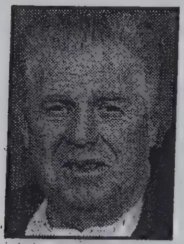
Calling will be Wednesday after 2 p.m. at the church.

Hite Funeral Home of Kendallville is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
JANUARY 2003
21

The following obituary is being reprinted to include additional information.

Leonard Walter Jr.



Mr. Walter

ROME CITY — Leonard C. Walter Jr., 67, died at 6:41 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, at his home. He had been ill for the last five years.

He had moved from Fort Wayne 43 years ago. He worked as a drycleaner for 22 years and in maintenance at A-1 Production for 22 years, retiring in 1997. He attended South Milford Church of Christ.

He was born in Fort Wayne on June 14, 1935, to Leonard C. Sr. and Lucille (Moses) Walter. His mother survives in Kendallville.

He married Dorothy Sweet on Dec. 19, 1959, at Woodruff Grove Church. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Jodi and Brad Cooper; two sons and daughters-in-law, Eric and Judy Walter of Rome City and Len and Michelle Walter of Wolcottville; 10 grandchildren; and one sister, Marylin Donat of Rome City.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at South Milford Church of Christ, with Michael Booher officiating. Burial will be in Woodruff Cemetery near Wolcottville.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Building Blocks in care of South Milford Church of Christ.

Ralph Driver

LAGRANGE — Memorial services for Ralph H. Driver, 81, who died at 4:25 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2003, at Miller Merry Manor Nursing Home, will be Thursday at 9 a.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He earned a master's degree from the University of Michigan and had worked as an aeronautical engineer.

He was born in LaGrange Aug. 9, 1921, to Harry and Ethel (Griffith) Driver.

Surviving are two nieces, Candice Goad of Martin, Tenn., and Leslie Ann Hume of Smyrna, Del.; one nephew, David Driver of Bathe, Maine; and one brother, Robert L. Driver of Union City, Tenn.

Richard Lawrence

KENDALLVILLE — Richard Lawrence died Monday, Jan. 20, 2003, at Mariner Health of Belair in Clearwater, Fla.

Among survivors are his wife, Mary; and three sons, Gene, Marlin and Perry Lawrence, all of Kendallville.

Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville. Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 22 2003

Dolores Gilmore

LAGRANGE — Dolores J. Gilmore, 63, died Monday, Jan. 20, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was co-owner of Big John's Furniture, At-EZ Computers and Noble Rentals. She moved to LaGrange in 1973 from Hazelcrest, Ill. She was a member of LaGrange Lions Club and Altar and Rosary Society.

She was born in Harvey, Ill., on Aug. 2, 1939, to Stephen W. and Frances J. (Golab) Kiepura. They preceded her in death.

She married John T. Gilmore on Aug. 22, 1959, in Harvey, Ill. He died Jan. 9, 2002.

Surviving are three daughters and sons-in-law, Michelle and John Farrow of Binghamton, N.Y., Danielle and Phil Hambright of Nottawa, Mich., and Tia and Tre Smith of LaGrange; one son and daughter-in-law, John S. and Tara Gilmore of LaGrange; seven grandchildren; and one sister, Sally Marie Kiepura of Chicago.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, with the Rev. Paul Faroh officiating. Burial will be Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. with rosary at 8 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association, LaGrange Fire Department or St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Kenneth Hand

HUNTERTOWN — Kenneth E. Hand, 88, died at 1:52 a.m. today, Jan. 22, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

Among surviving relatives are his wife, Lalia (Kimmel) Hand, and a daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Bill Eviston of Acworth, Ga.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco. Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Mabel Ray

Mrs. Ray

LAOTTO — Mabel C. Ray, 86, a resident of rural LaOtto, died at 2:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, at McAllen Medical Center in McAllen, Texas, where she had been a patient for three weeks.

She lived on the family farm in Swan Township most of her adult life. She was a member of the Friendship Club of the Allen County Home Extension office.

She was born near Antwerp, Ohio, on April 26, 1916, to Ray and Clara (Boylan) Jude.

She married Clyde Ray on Aug. 16, 1945, and they were married over 57 years. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, James and Mary Ray and Robert and Dawn Ray, all of Churubusco; two sisters, Wilma Snyder of Fort Wayne and Betty Ford of Bryan, Ohio; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Carroll McNutt, pastor of Ari Church of God, officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco.

Calling is Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to Shriner's Hospital for Children in Chicago or to the donor's choice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

The following obituary is being reprinted to include additional information.

Mildred Deetz

Mrs. Deetz

CHURUBUSCO — Mildred I. "Peg" Deetz, 95, died at 6:20 a.m. Monday, Jan. 20, 2003, in Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

She was a homemaker and laborer at General Electric and McCray Refrigeration. She was a member of Faith Lutheran Church of Churubusco, Colonial Club and Swan Eel Club. She enjoyed playing cards, quilting and watching IU basketball.

She was born in Noble County on March 2, 1907, to David M. and Libbie F. (Wehrly) Schultz.

She married Willis K. Deetz on Feb. 23, 1929, in Fort Wayne. He died March 2, 1978.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Marilyn "Sue" and Eugene Striggle of Churubusco, Peggy and Richard Springer of Fremont and Nancy Gordon of Kendallville; two sons and daughters-in-law, Robert and Darla Deetz of Woodburn and Thomas and Shirley Deetz of New Haven; 22 grandchildren; five stepgrandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; several stepgreat-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death besides her parents and husband were one son, Larry Deetz; three brothers; and three sisters.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, with Dr. Lane Burgland officiating. Burial will be in Fairfield Center Cemetery, Corunna.

Calling is today from 1 to 4 and 5 to 8 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Churubusco and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Faith Lutheran Church, 9251 E. S.R. 205, Churubusco.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 22 2003

Sherley Hicks

KENDALLVILLE — Sherley Hicks, 50, died at 1:05 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne. He had been ill for six years.

He was born in War, W.Va., on Oct. 2, 1952, to Chester and Lottie (Frazier) Hicks. His father survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are two daughters, Bambi and Pauline Hicks, both of Florida; one brother, Elis Ray Hicks of Kendallville; one sister, Violet Chapman of Pikeville, Ky.; three stepbrothers, Inn Bolen of Churubusco, James Bolen of Kendallville and Blanton Bolen of Kentucky; and one stepsister, Oma Hicks of Kentucky.

One stepbrother, Cliffton Bolen, preceded him in death.

Graveside services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Lisbon Cemetery.

There is no calling.

ALBION NEW ERA
JANUARY 22 2003

Veda Kimmell

WAWAKA – Veda P. Kimmell, 91, died Wednesday, January 15, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Before retirement, Mrs. Kimmell was a factory worker at Essex Wire in Ligonier and a homemaker. She was a member of Brimfield United Methodist Church.

She was born June 15, 1911, to Andrew and Grace (Forker) Grunden in Woodruff. She married Paul W. Kimmell on April 21, 1928, in Albion. He preceded her in death on October 13, 1987.

Surviving are eight daughters and five sons-in-law, Betty Jane and Richard Smith of Kendallville, Eva Bea Bahls of Kendallville, Lavorna and Richard Fulk of Rome City, Phyllis and Rex Cole of Albion, Ola Crain of Elkhart, Sandra L. and Jerry Groves of Albion, Sharon and Ron Karlstadt of Ney, Ohio, and Gloria Kimmell of Wawaka; two sons, Cecil Kimmell of Leesburg, FL, and Frank Kimmell of Columbia City; 30 grandchildren; 48 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Lavorna Strey of Decatur.

Also preceding her in death are six grandchildren; a brother, Donald Grunden; a son, John P. Kimmell; a son-in-law, Donald Bahls; and a daughter-in-law, Joanne Kimmell.

Services were held Saturday, January 18, 2003 at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville. The Rev. Mike Neff officiated. Burial was in Orange Township Cemetery in Brimfield.

Memorials are to Brimfield United Methodist Church or to the donor's choice.

Send condolences or sign the guest register book at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Ralph Bair

CHURUBUSCO – Ralph Lee Bair, 83, of Churubusco, died at 11:40 A.M. Friday, January 17, 2003, at Parkview Whitley Hospital in Columbia City. He had been in declining health and entered the hospital Monday.

He was born September 14, 1919, in Noble Township, Noble County, to Ebony and Ada (Haney) Bair. He graduated from Churubusco High School in 1939 and served in the U.S. Army in World War II.

He married Pauline Keister on March 29, 1941, and they spent most of their lives on a farm in Green Township, Noble County, retiring nearly 15 years ago. He and his wife moved to Churubusco in 1993.

Surviving are his wife; two sons and daughters-in-law Keith and Dee Bair and Curt and Diane Bair, all of Churubusco; two daughters and son-in-law, Connie Bair of Churubusco and Paula and Bill Shultz of Albion; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Pauline and Robert Delanoy of Albion, Nora Jane Bair of Churubusco, and Mary Lois and Edward Edwards of Albion; two brothers and sister-in-law, Paul Bair Sr., and Lynn E. and Anita Bair, all of Churubusco; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Service were Monday, January 20, 2003 at Merriam Christian Chapel with the Rev. Terry L. Zolman officiating. Burial was in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Memorials are to the Merriam Christian Chapel Mission Fund or the church building fund.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 23 2003

Richard Lawrence

KENDALLVILLE — Richard W. Lawrence, 78, died Monday, Jan. 20 2003, at Mariner Health of Belleair in Clearwater, Fla.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army. He was a businessman and was former owner of Kendallville Fertilizer Co. Inc. from 1955 until his retirement in 1988. He was a member of American Legion Post 86. He enjoyed gardening and yard work and tending his fruit trees.

He was born in Chesterfield, Ohio, on March 18, 1924, to Kenneth and Elva (Croninger) Lawrence.

He married Mary Quillet June 28, 1944, in Wauseon, Ohio. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, Perry and Diana Lawrence, Gene and Janine Lawrence and Marlin and Leslie Lawrence, all of Kendallville; five granddaughters, Lori Lawrence, Amy Lawrence, Lisa Wilson and Emily Gossett, all of Indianapolis, and Janelle Lawrence of Knoxville, Tenn.; two grandsons, Jordan Lawrence and Scott Lawrence, both of Kendallville; two great-grandchildren, Samuel and Sarah Lawrence of Kendallville; one brother, Harlen Lawrence of Wauseon, Ohio; and one sister, Leona Sherer of Waterville, Ohio.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Thomas Clothier officiating. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery in Brimfield.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

Evelyn Sellet

FORT WAYNE — Evelyn M. Sellet, 86, died Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

She was a supervisor at Indiana & Michigan Electric Co., retiring in 1981 after 35 years.

She was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are a daughter, Sharon McGaughy of Northbrook, Ill.; a son, Donald Sellet of LaOtto; four grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

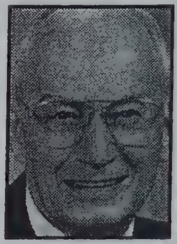
Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Trinity English Lutheran Church. Burial will be in St. John Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Visiting Nurse Service's Hospice Home, 5910 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46814.

Kenneth Hand

HUNTERTOWN — Kenneth E. Hand, 88, died at 1:52 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.


Mr. Hand

He served with the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He was a farmer much of his life and worked as a welder for General Electric in Fort Wayne for 35 years, retiring in 1975. He was a member of Huntertown United Methodist Church, was past master of Huntertown Lodge 689 F&AM and past worthy patron of Churubusco Order of the Eastern Star 136. He served on the board of Huntertown Cemetery for several years.

He was born in Eel River Township in Allen County March 31, 1914, to Jesse and Mary (Roy) Hand.

He married Lalia Kimmel Aug. 9, 1941. The couple lived at their present home in Eel River Township since 1948. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Bill Eviston of Acworth, Ga.; a sister and brother-in-law, Betty and Jim Britt of Markle; three grandchildren, Matt Eviston of Burlington, N.C., Seth Eviston of Indianapolis and Sara Eviston of Greenville, N.C.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, George Kenneth Hand; a brother, William Hand; and a sister, Ruth Waters.

Services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Huntertown United Methodist Church, with Pastors Sherri Long and David Michel officiating. Burial will be in Huntertown Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 8 p.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco.

Memorials are to Huntertown United Methodist Church or Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com

THE NEWS SUN

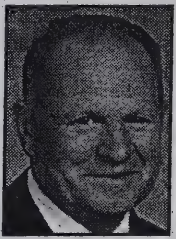
JANUARY 24 2003

Charles McBride

GARRETT — Charles "Rival" McBride, 89, died Thursday, Jan. 23, 2003, at 12:50 a.m. at Miller's Merry Manor nursing home in Garrett.

Mr. McBride worked as a trainman on the B&O Railroad for 35 years, retiring in 1976. He had lived in Altona for 82 years and was a member of the Garrett Eagles.

He was born Oct. 2, 1913, in Huntertown to Charles W. and Pearl (Heffelfinger) McBride.



Mr. McBride

On June 29, 1936, in Garrett, he married Digna C. Sobasky. She died March 16, 1986.

Surviving are four sons, Rival McBride of Columbia City, John W. McBride of Fremont, Jerald W. McBride of Garrett and Steve L. McBride of Garrett; three brothers, Dean McBride of Waterloo, Harley Ray McBride of Hamilton and Paul McBride of Boston; two sisters, Eileen Harger of Hamilton and Ann Robbins of Auburn; 10 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Vaughn, Wayne and Neal McBride, and a sister, Nadine Barnhart.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with the Rev. Arthur G. Ferry Jr. officiating. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery of Garrett.

Calling is Sunday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Francis Merritt

NEW HAVEN — Francis W. Merritt, 73, died Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor.

He was one of the founders of Four Winds Beauty Salon in Fort Wayne.

He was born in Peru.

Surviving are two daughters, Melissa D. Zimmerman of Fort Wayne and Vicky Koch of Selma, Calif.; two sons, Richard Appel of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Rex Appel of Kendallville; two sisters, Beverly Yentes of Merced, Calif., and Shirley Coffman of Seattle; and a brother, Hershel of North Manchester.

He was preceded in death by a son, William Merritt.

Services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at Hockemeyer & Son Funeral Home, 6131 St. Joe Road in Fort Wayne.

Calling is one hour before services.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Rodney Dunn

HUDSON — Rodney G. Dunn, 36, died Thursday, Jan. 23, 2003.

Mr. Dunn was self-employed and also had worked at Phillips Brick Cleaning. He was a resident of Hudson and a former resident of Waterloo.

He was born Feb. 2, 1966, in Auburn to Max and Rita (Miller) Dunn.

Surviving are his mother, Rita Baird of Auburn; his father and stepmother, Max and Kristian Dunn of Hudson; one sister, Reneé Custer of Garrett; a half brother, Ryan Baird of Auburn; a stepgrandmother, Margaret Miller of Waterloo; a maternal grandmother, Berneda Miller of San Antonio, Texas; and a paternal grandmother, Betty Dunn of Auburn.

Private family services will be followed by burial in St. Michael Cemetery of Waterloo.

Memorials are to masses at St. Michael Catholic Church or the Northeastern Center.

Johnson Funeral Home of Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Services Held

SOUTH MILFORD — Services for **Roy Nichols** were held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Al Wingfield officiating. Burial was in Zion Lutheran Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Michael Strater, Timothy Strater, James Nichols, David Bassett, Jim Hodge, John Parr, LaVerne Willits and Freeman Willits.

Honorary pallbearers were Tom Bassett and the members of the South Milford Volunteer Fire Department.

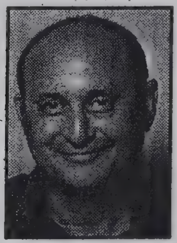
Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

Shelton Bolen

KENDALLVILLE — Shelton Bolen, 70, of Kendallville, died Friday, Jan. 24, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Bolen was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War. He was a Purple Heart recipient and received a variety of other medals of honor.

He was employed at Dalton Foundry in Kendallville for more than 20 years and was a member of New Freedom Baptist Church in LaGrange.


Mr. Bolen

He was born May 10, 1932, to Joseph and Alonzo (Bolen) Bolen at Salt Lick, Knott County, Ky.

He married Gertrude Tackett on Dec. 24, 1953, in Drift, Ky. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, David and Theresa Bolen of Wolcottville, Earl and Jewel Bolen of Kendallville and Sheridan and Joyce Hall of Butler; one daughter, Betty Slone of Kendallville; three brothers, Jim Bolen of Genessee, Ill., Joe Bolen Jr. of Kendallville and Garland Gibson of Ypsilanti, Mich.; three sisters, Marie VanBlarken of Pearl, Ill., Cora Barker of South Milford and Bonnie Johnson of Kankakee, Ill.; 21 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death are his parents and four brothers, Burnis Bolen, Milford and Milton Handshoe and Monroe Gibson.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Community Baptist Church on C.R. 700S near South Milford with Wade Sturdivant officiating.

Calling will be today after 4 p.m. and all day Sunday.

Burial will be at Corunna Cemetery.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Irene McGuire

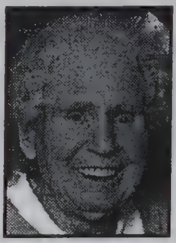
AVILLA — Irene (Turk) McGuire, 81, of Avilla, died Thursday, Jan. 23, 2003, at 10:25 a.m.

Mrs. McGuire had been ill for one year and resided at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla for six months.

She was a homemaker, loving mother and wife.

She and her husband were active with their military friends from World War II and attended reunions twice a year. She also enjoyed reading, cooking and playing cards.

She was born on July 15, 1921, in Indianapolis. Her foster parents were Clyde and Corie Stiffner.


Mrs. McGuire

She married Max McGuire on Dec. 15, 1942 in Wawaka, who survives. The Rev. Hoover performed the ceremony. They had recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Also surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Lois and Ken Ward of Rome City, Elaine Wolfe of Albion, and Betty and John Pettit of Goshen; one son, Bill McGuire and friend Rachel Welch of Kendallville; one brother, Ralph Stiffner of Kendallville; one sister, Evelyn Grate of Kendallville; 13 grandchildren and their spouses, Kim and Lance Snyder, Daren Bortner, Kristal Mynhier, Jimmy Mynhier, Tracy and Ron Stanley, Teresa and Troy Airgood, Jenny Pettit, Tiffany and Dennis Wolfe, Steven McGuire, Tray Owen, Dustin McGuire, Gavin McGuire and Brentin McGuire; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one son-in-law, Neal Wolfe; one brother; and three grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Orr Funeral Home of Albion with the Rev. Tom Novy officiating. Burial will follow in Rose Hill Cemetery of Albion.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Pallbearers are Troy Owen Dustin McGuire, Daren Bortner, Bill McGuire, Steve McGuire, Ken Ward and John Pettit.

Memorials are to Provena Sacred Heart Home of Avilla, 515 N. Main St., Avilla.

Services Held

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services were held for siblings **Carolyn Sue Russell and Donald Wayne Russell** at 11 a.m. Thursday at Five Corners Baptist Church in Wolcottville, with the Rev. Clarence Combs and the Rev. Lee Combs officiating. Burial was in Sweet Cemetery near Albion.

Pallbearers for Miss Russell were Kenny Gohn, Roy Heileman, Ray Heileman, Raymond Heileman Sr., Tyler Hanes and Donald Bolen.

Pallbearers for Mr. Russell were Jack Clements, Travis Knox, Troy Russell, Travis Bolen, Ford Frick Jr. and Herman Conley.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville was in charge of the arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 25 2003

Gladia Hale

LAGRANGE — Gladia M. Hale, 65, of LaGrange, died Thursday, Jan. 23, 2003, at 7:47 p.m. in Elkhart General Hospital of natural causes.

Mrs. Hale was a homemaker.

She was born on Sept. 26, 1937, to Sherwood and Quielle (Trout) Blackburn in Canada, Ky. They preceded her in death.

She married John R. Hale on Jan. 1, 1994, at United Baptist Church at Valentine in Magnolia, Texas. He survives.

Also surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Diane and Jon Dilligham of Elyria, Ohio; three sons, Davy Thacker of Tomball, Texas, Ulan Thacker of Houston, Texas, and Danny Thacker of Huntsville, Texas; three stepsons, Johnny Ray Hale of LaGrange, Terry Woodworth of Tennessee and Joe Woodworth of Colorado; one sister, Shirley Milligan Bailey of LaGrange; one brother, John Carl Blackburn of Oberlin, Ohio; 11 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Lon and Bruce Blackburn.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Mt. Calvary United Baptist Church in Stroh. Willie Collins will officiate.

Calling will start at 5 p.m. today, all day Sunday and prior to the service at the church.

Burial will be in Ontario Cemetery.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 26 2003

Irene McGuire

AVILLA — Irene (Turk) McGuire, 81, of Avilla, died Thursday, Jan. 23, 2003, at 10:25 a.m.

Mrs. McGuire

Mrs. McGuire had been ill for one year and resided at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla for six months.

She was a homemaker, loving mother and wife.

Mrs. McGuire and her husband, Max, who survives her, were active with their military friends from World War II and attended reunions twice a year. She also enjoyed reading, cooking and playing cards.

She was born July 18, 1921, in Indianapolis. Her foster parents were Clyde and Corie Stiffner.

She married Max McGuire on Dec. 15, 1942 in Wawaka, who survives. The Rev. Hoover performed the ceremony. They had recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Also surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Lois and Ken Ward of Rome City, Elaine Wolfe of Albion, and Betty and John Pettit of Goshen; one son, Bill McGuire and friend Rachel Welch of Kendallville; one brother, Ralph Stiffner of Kendallville; one sister, Evelyn Grate of Kendallville; 13 grandchildren and their spouses, Kim and Lance Snyder, Daren Bortner, Kristal Mynhier, Jimmy Mynhier, Tracy and Ron Stanley, Teresa and Troy Airgood, Jenny Pettit, Tiffany and Dennis Wolfe, Steven and Carrie McGuire, Troy and Melissa Owen, Dustin McGuire, Gavin McGuire and Brentin McGuire; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one son-in-law, Neal Wolfe; one brother; and three grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Orr Funeral Home of Albion with the Rev. Tom Novy officiating. Burial will follow in Rose Hill Cemetery of Albion.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Pallbearers are Troy Owen Dustin McGuire, Daren Bortner, Bill McGuire, Steve McGuire, Ken Ward and John Pettit.

Memorials are to Provena Sacred Heart Home of Avilla, 515 N. Main St., Avilla.

Robert Milligan

FORT WAYNE — Former Angola resident Robert A. Milligan, 81, of Fort Wayne, died Saturday, Jan. 25, 2003, at his daughter's home in Anderson.

Mr. Milligan was a supervisor at Rea-Magnet Wire for 42 years, retiring in 1982. He was a member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Angola and the American Legion and Moose Lodge in Angola.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in World War II.

He was born March 21, 1921, in Arcola.

His wife, Margaret, preceded him in death in 1995.

Surviving are a daughter, Bonnie Smith of Anderson; two sons, Tom Milligan of Fort Wayne and Larry Milligan of Anderson; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday in St. Patrick Catholic Church, Arcola.

Calling is from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Monday at D.O. McComb & Sons Covington Knolls Chapel, 8325 Covington Road, Fort Wayne.

Burial will be in St. Patrick Cemetery, Arcola.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society, American Legion or masses.

Ethyl Shultz

KENDALLVILLE — Ethyl F. Shultz, 86, Kendallville, died Saturday, Jan. 25, 2003, at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Shultz was a 1934 graduate of Kendallville High School. She then studied at Tri-State College in Angola, graduating in 1936.

She retired in 1978 from McCray Memorial Hospital in Kendallville, where she worked as the director of medical records, after 24 years of service. She was a member of the Corunna Church of Christ and the Rebekah Lodge.

She was born July 19, 1916, to George and Delpha (Ross) Gehring.

She married Harry W. Shultz on Feb. 5, 1938, in Angola. He preceded her in death on Aug. 15, 1996.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Jim Springer of Fort Wayne; a grandson and his wife, Scott and Rhonda Fortress of Kendallville; a granddaughter, Delpha Shultz of Macon, Ga.; and four great-granddaughters, Sonya and Lindsay Fortress and Ema Lee Barr and Kaitlin Barr, all of Kendallville.

Preceding her in death were a son, Mark; two sisters, Marcelle Bair and Talitha Fiandt; and two brothers, Art and James Gehring.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, with the Rev. Jim McPeak officiating.

Calling is from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery, Kendallville.

Memorials are to Corunna Church of Christ.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 27 2003

Anna Coblentz

LAGRANGE — Anna J. Coblentz, 67, died Sunday, Jan. 26, 2003, at her home.

She was a homemaker and member of the Old Order Amish Church. She moved from Middlefield, Ohio, to LaGrange in 2001.

She was born in Holmes County, Ohio, on Oct. 15, 1935, to Jacob L. and Amanda (Hershberger) Shetler.

She married Jake Coblentz on Nov. 14, 1971, in Monroe. He died Aug. 4, 1997.

Surviving are five stepdaughters and their spouses, Mattie and Dan Yoder of Apple Creek, Ohio, Betty and Neil Schmucker of Middlefield, Ohio, Lydia and Mose Troyer of Middlefield, Mary and Paul Hershberger of Fredericksburg, Ohio, and Amanda and Amos Graber of Berne; three stepsons and their spouses, Jack and Shirley Coblentz Jr. of Syracuse, Noah and Judy Coblentz of Cleveland and Albert and Wilma Coblentz of Middlefield; two sisters, Martha and Fanny Hilty, both of Berne; five brothers, Henry J. and Valintine J. Shetler, both of Berne, Andy J. Shetler of Monroe, and Levi J. and Mose J. Shetler, both of LaGrange; 60 stepgrandchildren; 132 stepgreat-grandchildren; and four stepgreat-great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were four brothers.

Services will be Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. at the Amos J. Yoder residence at 150 N. C.R. 215W, LaGrange, with Bishop Jacob E. Troyer and home ministers officiating. Burial will be in the Mast Cemetery, 250 W. C.R. 150N, LaGrange.

Calling begins after 5 p.m. today and all day Tuesday at the Mose J. Shetler residence at 1885 W. C.R. 200N, LaGrange.

Arrangements are by Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct information provided by the funeral home.

Violet Fee

MONTGOMERY, Mich. — Violet Mae Fee, 83, Montgomery, Mich., died Saturday, Jan. 25, 2003, at Lakeland Nursing Center, Angola.

Mrs. Fee was born Nov. 3, 1919, in Butler, to Harry and Alice Lower. She married Otis J. Fee on Sept. 12, 1936, in Albion. He preceded her in death on Jan. 13, 1976.

She was a homemaker. She loved to fish and go camping. She formerly lived in Auburn and LaPorte, and moved to Branch County, Mich., in 1953.

Surviving are five daughters and two sons-in-law, Frances Laws of Waterloo, Virginia Oberlin of Kendallville, Beverly and Harry Briggs of Brooklyn, Mich., Janet Fletcher of Montgomery, Mich., and Carol and Robert Harrington of Montgomery; a son, Donald Fee of Butler; a brother, Arnold Lower of Auburn; 32 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; 15 great-great-grandchildren; and several step-grandchildren.

She also was preceded in death by a daughter, Dorothy Guinn, a son, Dick Fee, four sisters and one brother.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Beams Funeral Home, Fremont, with Pastor Jim Hazekamp officiating. Calling is from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Burial will be in California Cemetery, Montgomery.

Memorials are to the charity of the donor's choice.

Noah Schmucker

SYRACUSE — Noah J. Schmucker, 88, formerly of Topeka, died at 3:34 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Syracuse.

He was a farmer and lived all his life in the LaGrange County area. He was a member of Pilgrim Fellowship Church of Nottowa, Mich.

He was born in LaGrange County Dec. 29, 1914, to Jacob and Lydia (Yoder) Schmucker.

He married Lizzie Ann Miller in Goshen on Feb. 7, 1935. She died March 10, 2001.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Lydia Mae and Steve McBride of Whiteville, N.C.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Jake and Edna Schmucker of Goshen and Harold and Dee Schmucker of Syracuse; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Beulah Otto; a grandson, Gerald Wayne Otto; a granddaughter, Lisa Dee Schmucker; and a sister, Anna Eash.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Fairhaven Amish Mennonite Church, Goshen, with Bishop John Miller of Pilgrim Fellowship Church officiating. Burial will be in Thomas Cemetery, Goshen.

Calling will be Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. at the church.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 27 2003

Robert Johnson

HUNTERTOWN — Robert C. "Fuzz" Johnson, 77, died Saturday, Jan. 25, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

He worked at Fort Wayne City Utilities, retiring in 1970 after 28 years. He was a 42-year veteran of the military, with 33 years in the Air Force Reserve, retiring as a senior master sergeant. He was a veteran of World War II and the Vietnam War and received the President's Unit Citation.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Rosella, in 1979.

Surviving are two sons, Terry R. Johnson of Huntertown and Kitt J. Johnson of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Georgean C. Johnson-Coffey of Fort Wayne; two brothers, Buddy Johnson of Middlebury and Calvin Johnson of Antwerp, Ohio; two sisters, Patty Kennedy of LaGrange and Betty Coles of Lehigh Acres, Fla.; and two grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at St. Vincent's Catholic Church. Military graveside services will be held at Highland Park Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 8 p.m. at Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Home Wayne Street Chapel and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Acres Land Trust of Veterans National Memorial Shrine on O'Day Road.

Leon Miller

LAGRANGE — Leon Miller, infant, was stillborn at 2:10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, 2003, at New Eden Care Center, Topeka.

Surviving are his parents, Amos Jay and May Ann (Miller) Miller of LaGrange; two sisters, Rhonda Kay and Katie Miller; four brothers, Mahlon, David, Aaron and Mark Miller; paternal grandmother, Katie Miller of Millersburg; paternal great-grandfather, Amos D. Bontrager of Millersburg; and maternal grandparents, Elmer C. and Katie Mae Miller of LaGrange.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Levi A. Miller.

Services will be Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Miller residence at 4935 W. C.R. 100N, LaGrange, with Bishop Harry Wayne Miller officiating. Burial will be in East Barren Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Arrangements are by Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home of Ligonier.

Gerald Key

PAOLI — Gerald W. Key, 70, died at 1:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, 2003, at Walnut Creek Nursing Home.

He was a factory laborer, retiring from Child Crafts of Salem. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the Korean War. He was a member of the Paoli V.F.W.

He was born in Paoli June 29, 1932, to Elmer and Dessie (Lines) Key.

Surviving are two daughters, Cindy Padgett of Paoli and Regina Holcomb of Kendallville; two sons, Jerry Key of Millersburg and Terry Key of Paoli; one brother, Harold Key of Marengo; and 12 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, Knofel, Charlie, Orville and Roy Key; and two sisters, Lorraine Poe and Edith Key.

Services will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. at McAdams Mortuary in Paoli. Burial will be in Paoli Community Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Benjamin Rambaud

CROMWELL — Benjamin Rambaud, 68, died Saturday, Jan. 25, 2003, at home.

He was a maintenance superintendent at Indiana Steel & Wire in Muncie, retiring in 1996. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

He was born in Massillon, Ohio.

Surviving are his wife, Anita of Cromwell; a son, Karl B. Rambaud of Peru; two daughters, Denise A. Rambaud of Winona Lake and Bonnie Twait of Syracuse; and six grandchildren.

Memorial services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Syracuse, with a reception to follow.

Memorials are to the church.

Arrangements were made by Northeast Indiana Cremation Society.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 28 2003

John Smith

KENDALLVILLE — John M. Smith, 71, died at 8:05 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital.

He lived in Kendallville since 1975 after moving from Edon, Ohio, where he was a longtime resident. He worked as an inspector at Hendrickson Suspension for 30 years before his retirement in 1994. He attended Faith United Methodist Church in Kendallville. While in Edon, he was a Scout Master with the Edon Boy Scouts for several years and was a former member of Edon American Legion Post 662.

He was a veteran of the Korean conflict, and served as a medic with the U.S. Army. He was awarded the Purple Heart.

He was born in Edon on Nov. 20, 1931, to Ira and Alta (Luke) Smith.

He married Kathryn M. Thompson on June 19, 1954, in Edon. She survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are two sons and one daughter-in-law, Kent and Kathie Smith of Montpelier, Ohio, and Jerry Smith of Kendallville; three grandchildren; and six great-grandsons.

He was preceded in death by one great-granddaughter; and one brother, William Smith.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Krill Funeral Home in Edon, Ohio, with Pastor Jim Toole of Faith United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in Edon Cemetery.

Calling is today from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Kidney Foundation.

Condolences may be e-mailed to Smithfamily@Krillfuneralservice.com.

Rosa Beachy

SHIPSHEWANA — Rosa N. Beachy, 91, died at 8:45 p.m. Monday, Jan. 27, 2003, at the home of her daughter, Rosanna Fry of Topeka. She had been in declining health after suffering a stroke.

She was a homemaker and member of the Old Order Amish Church. She lived at the same residence her entire life.

She was born in Shipshewana Nov. 26, 1911, to Noah and Katie (Glick) Bontrager.

She married Jonas C. Beachy on Jan. 12, 1933, in her home in Shipshewana. He died Feb. 19, 2000.

Surviving are six daughters and five sons-in-law, Wilma and Harley Miller of Goshen, Katie and Chris Yoder of Shipshewana, Esther Miller of Middlebury, Ida and Norman Scott, of Sarasota, Fla., Mary and Orla Schlabach of Shipshewana and Rosanna and Perry Fry of Topeka; one son and daughter-in-law, Levi Lee and Lorene Beachy of Shipshewana; 48 grandchildren; 177 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Mahlon Beachy in 1974 and Enos Beachy in 1920; one grandson, Delbert Miller; and one great-grandson, Timothy Ray Miller.

Services will be Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at her home at 2805 S. C.R. 1000W, Shipshewana, with Bishop Sam Beechy and the Rev. Lloyd Miller officiating. Burial will be in Bontrager Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling is today after 3 p.m. and all day Wednesday at her home.

Ronald Henning

CHURUBUSCO — Ronald R. Henning, 69, died at 10:46 a.m. Monday, Jan. 27, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne. He had been a patient for two months.

Surviving are his wife, Jo Anne; and a son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Lori Henning of Churubusco.

A son, Timothy A. Henning, died in 2002.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Services Held

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Shelton Bolen** were held Monday at 10 a.m. at Community Baptist Church, with the Rev. Wade Sturdivant officiating. Burial was in Corunna Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Adam Bolen, Shane Hall, Daniel Bolen, Josh Bolen, Caleb Bolen, Shelton W. Bolen, Jerry Napier and Terry Napier. Josh Kelley was honorary pallbearer.

Hite Funeral Home of Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

Gladys Jackson

KENDALLVILLE — Gladys L. Jackson, 99, died Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home.

She was a member of St. John Lutheran Church in Kendallville.

She was born in Kendallville July 30, 1903, to George and Mabel (Lighty) Jourdan.

She married John W. Butler on Feb. 28, 1925. He died Nov. 17, 1942. She later married Andrew P. Jackson. He died Sept. 12, 1979.

Surviving are a son, John J. Butler of Kendallville; a granddaughter, Deborah Sue Barry of Auburn; a grandson, Gregory Lynn Butler of Brooklyn, Mich.; and five great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death was a brother, Earl Jourdan.

Graveside services will be in Lisbon Cemetery at a later date.

There is no calling.

Hite Funeral Home of Kendallville is in charge of arrangements.

Florence Merriman

FORT WAYNE — Florence E. Merriman, 84, formerly of LaGrange, died Saturday, Jan. 25, 2003, at the Lutheran Home in Fort Wayne.

She retired from General Electric Co. in Fort Wayne.

She was born in Sturgis, Mich.

Surviving are a sister, Wanda Waltke of Sturgis; and a niece, Sarah Fugler of Colorado.

Private services will be in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Memorials are to a local hospice organization.

Rosenberg-Schipper Funeral Home Ltd. of Sturgis is in charge of arrangements.

Ethel Holbrook

Mrs. Holbrook

LAOTTO — Ethel Holbrook, 88, of rural LaOtto in DeKalb County, died at 10:05 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville. She had been in declining health and was hospitalized for two days.

She was a homemaker and member of LaOtto Wesleyan Church. She moved from Clinton County, Ky., to Fort Wayne in 1936. She lived in Butler Township since her marriage.

She was born in Clinton County, Ky., April 7, 1914, to All and Arminda (Smith) Scheckels.

She married Lee "Ports" Holbrook on May 17, 1947, in DeKalb County. He died in 1963.

Surviving are four sons and daughters-in-law, Robert L. and Helen Holbrook of Wolcottville, Howard J. and Fay Holbrook of Garrett, Joe D. and Carmen Holbrook of LaOtto and Donnie P. and Joan Holbrook of Huntertown; a brother, Samuel "Jack" Sheckels of Indianapolis; 17 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Jane Holbrook; four sisters, Edna Graham, Flossie Vincent, Wila Wright and Eva Sheckels; and three brothers, Willard Sheckels, John Sheckels and James "Vesty" Sheckels.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Dean Bearman of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Avilla officiating. Burial will be in Cedar Creek Cemetery, DeKalb County.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Richard W. Lawrence** were held Saturday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home with the Rev. Thomas Clothier officiating. Burial was in Orange Cemetery, Brimfield.

Pallbearers were Ralph Burkley, Ray Herman, Roger Moses, Scott Lawrence, Jordan Lawrence and Kevin Sabrosky.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ethyl F. Shultz** were held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home with the Rev. Jim McPeak officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

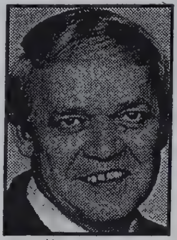
Pallbearers were Scott Fortress, Jim Springer, Brian Bair, Steve Bair, Tyler Malott, Tyler Shepherd, Mark Church and Herb Buckland.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 29 2003

Ronald Henning

CHURUBUSCO — Ronald R. Henning, 69, died at 10:46 a.m. Monday, Jan. 27, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne. He had been hospitalized since heart surgery in late November.


Mr. Henning

He graduated from Churubusco High School in 1951 and was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean conflict. He lived in Churubusco all his life and served two terms on the town council. He was employed as a meat packer at Peter Eckrich & Sons in Fort Wayne for 34 years, retiring in 1986. He also worked at Churubusco Package Liquor for 30 years.

He was born in Churubusco Nov. 16, 1933, to Howard H. and Jane H. (Craig) Henning.

He married Jo Anne O'Dier on Oct. 18, 1952. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Lori Henning of Churubusco; a brother and sister-in-law, Jesse and Mary Henning of Fort Wayne; four sisters and three brothers-in-law, Lois Schram, and Sue and Kenneth Campbell, all of Fort Wayne, Pat and Herman Klemm of Elkhart and Shirley and Jack Sickafoose of Albion; and four grandchildren, Taylor Henning of Churubusco, Jane Marie Henning of Chicago and Andrew and Emmy Henning, both of Spokane, Wash.

Preceding him in death was a son, Timothy A. Henning, who died on April 9, 2002; a brother, Harold Henning; and two sisters, Sandra Henning and Lucille Fudge.

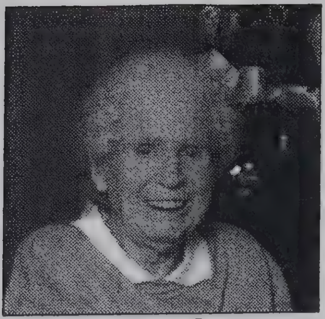
Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs of Churubusco United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Churubusco United Methodist Church, Faith Lutheran Church in Churubusco or the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

ALBION NEW ERA
JANUARY 2003
29



Irene McGuire

AVILLA – Irene (Turk) McGuire, 81 of Avilla, died Thursday, January 23, 2003, at 10:25 a.m.

Mrs. McGuire had been ill for one year and resided at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla for six months.

She was a homemaker, loving mother and wife.

She and her husband, Max, were active with their military friends from World War II and attended reunions twice a year. She also enjoyed reading, cooking and playing cards.

She was born on July 18, 1921, in Indianapolis. Her foster parents were Clyde and Corie Stiffner.

She married Max McGuire on December 15, 1942 in Wawaka, who survives. The Rev. Hoover performed the ceremony. They had recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Also surviving, in addition to her husband, are three daughters and sons-in-law, Lois and Ken Ward of Rome City; Elaine Wolfe of Albion, and Betty and John Pettit of Goshen. One son, Bill McGuire and friend Rachel Welch of Kendallville; one brother, Ralph Stiffner of Kendallville and one sister, Evelyn Grate of Kendallville; 13 grandchildren and spouses, Kim and Lance Snyder, Daren Bortner, Kristal Mynhier, Jimmy Mynhier, Tracy and Ron Stanley, Teresa and Troy Airgood, Jenny Pettit, Tiffany and Dennis Wolfe, Steven and Carrie McGuire, Troy and Melissa Owen, Dustin McGuire, Gavin McGuire, and Brentin McGuire; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one son-in-law, Neal Wolfe; one brother; and three grandchildren.

Services were Monday, January 27, 2003 at Orr Funeral Home of Albion with Rev. Tom Novy officiating. Burial followed in Rose Hill Cemetery in Albion.

Pallbearers were: Troy Owen, Dustin McGuire, Daren Bortner, Bill McGuire, Steve McGuire, Ken Ward and John Pettit.

Memorial contributions can be made to Provena Sacred Heart Home of Avilla, 515 North Main Street, Avilla, IN 46710

Elaine E. Daugherty

Elaine E. Daugherty, 70, died Tuesday, January 21, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Ms Daugherty was born in Fort Wayne on October 2, 1932, to Harold and Hellen E. Winebrenner Daugherty. She was a homemaker.

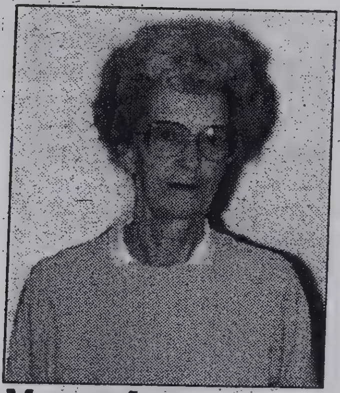
Surviving in addition to her mother are two sisters, Kim Patrick and Kay Elaine Daughtery, both of Leesburg, Florida.

Services were Saturday, January 25, 2003, at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne with the Rev. David Easterday officiating.

Burial was in Merriam Christian Chapel Cemetery.

Memorials are to the church of Multiple Sclerosis.

ALBION NEW ERA
JANUARY 29 2003



Vesta Jones

COLUMBIA CITY -- Vesta M. Jones, 78, died at 11 p.m. Thursday, January 23 in the Oaks, where she had been a patient since November 8, 2002.

She was born on November 20, 1924 in Noble County, a daughter of Sanford William and Vadda Eva Addis Winebrenner. Her formative years were spent in the Wolf Lake area where she began her education at Wolf Lake School and later attended Columbia City High School.

She made her home in Columbia City where she was employed by Weatherhead and several other local factories, restaurants and worked at the Thornburg Drug Store for ten years as a sales clerk. She later resided in Whiting, Indiana for twelve years and in July 2000 moved to South Whitley, where she made her home until moving to Columbia City in January 2002. She was a member of Faith Baptist Church in Columbia City.

Surviving are a daughter, Linda L. Ambrose (Ronald) Rubrake of Columbia City; two grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and a sister, Ilene Leitch of Churubusco.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Melvin Winebrenner and a sister, Marjorie Lacava.

There was no visitation. A memorial service will be held at the Faith Baptist Church, 850 West Business 30, at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Parkview Whitley Home Health and Hospice.

Arrangements are by the Smith and Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City.

Kenneth E. Hand

Kenneth E. Hand, 88, a resident of rural Huntertown, died at 1:52 a.m. on Wednesday, January 22, 2003, at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne. He had been in declining health for the past two months, and had entered the hospice home two weeks ago.

Mr. Hand was born on March 31, 1914, in Eel River Township in Allen County, a son of Jesse and Mary Roy Hand. He spent his formative years on the family farm, and served with the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II.

On August 9, 1941, he was married to Lalia Kimmel. The couple have lived at their present home in Eel River Township since 1948.

Engaged in farming for most of his life, he retired in 1975 as a welder at General Electric in Fort Wayne after 35 years.

He was a member of the Huntertown United Methodist church, a past master of Huntertown Lodge 689 F&AM, and was past worthy patron of Churubusco Order of the Eastern Star 136. He also served on the board of trustees of the Huntertown Cemetery for many years.

The surviving relatives include the widow Lalia; a daughter and son-in-law Linda and Bill Eviston of Acworth, Georgia; a sister and brother-in-law Betty and Jim Britt of Markle; and three grandchildren Matt Eviston of Burlington, North Carolina, Seth Eviston of Indianapolis, and Sara Eviston of Greenville, North Carolina.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son George Kenneth Hand; a brother William Hand; and a sister Ruth Waters.

Services were Saturday, January 25, 2003, at the Huntertown United Methodist Church, with Pastors Sherri Long and David Michel, officiating. Interment was in the Huntertown Cemetery. Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco was in charge of arrangements.

For those who wish, memorials may be directed to Huntertown United Methodist church or the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

THE NEWS SUN
JANUARY 30 2003

June Zettler

CHURUBUSCO — June Krider Zettler, 93, died Sunday, Jan. 26, 2003, in Riverside, Calif.

She worked as a medical secretary for 40 years and was an avid square dancer.

She was born in Churubusco to Arthur S. Krider of Churubusco and Alta Mary Keller of Green Center.

She also lived in Fort Wayne, Haines City, Fla., and Orange and Riverside counties in California.

Surviving are four children, Wynn C. Scott-Cupp, Vincent V. Zettler III, Ann Jeanette Engelbrecht and Jolie M. Cecere; nine grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Preceding her in death were husbands William C. Scott of Florida, Alton Cupp of Fort Wayne and Vince V. Zettler II of Canton, Ohio.

Preston and Simons Mortuary in Riverside, Calif., is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

JANUARY 31 2003

Nadine Todd

LIGONIER — Nadine Todd, 93, died at 11:08 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2003, at Oak Leaf Village where she had resided for six days.

She was a lifetime resident of Noble County. She was a registered nurse and homemaker. She was a member of the Ligonier United Methodist Church. She was involved in many church activities, including leading a teen youth group and Good Samaritans. She was also a member of the Perry Township Home Extension Club.

She was born in Noble County Aug. 1, 1909, to Albert and Emma (Schlotterback) Deardorff.

She married John W. Todd May 8, 1934, in Plymouth. He preceded her in death on Dec. 24, 1990.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Channing and Dianne Todd of Union, Mich.; two grandchildren, John M. Todd and Lucia Noel McLaughlin; one step grandchild, Tara Leisie; three great-grandchildren, John and Claire McLaughlin and Evan Todd; two step-great-grandchildren, Bailey and Chase Leisie.

She was also preceded in death by her sister, Fredonna Dibler.

Services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Michael Heinbaugh officiating. Burial will be in Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

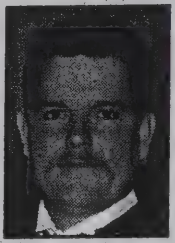
Calling begins at 11:30 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Gregory Clingan

HUDSON — Gregory Lynn Clingan, 35, of Hudson, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, in a semi wreck near Flint, Mich.

Mr. Clingan was born Jan 21, 1968, in Auburn to Robert and Emily (Call) Clingan. He married Jodi Lyons on Oct. 27, 2001, at the Hudson United Brethren Church, and she survives.


Mr. Clingan

He was a truck driver for North Central Co-op, and fire chief of the Hudson Volunteer Fire Department.

He was a member of the Ashley Masonic Lodge No. 614, a reserve town marshal for the town of Hudson and a member of the Budd Bass Busters. Clingan was also an emergency medical technician for the Steuben County Emergency Medical Service.

Surviving are two daughters, Kayla and Madison, and three stepchildren, Alicia Harding, Brooklyn Lyons and Dallas Lyons, all living at home; two brothers, Doug of Orland and Jeff of Stroh; and his grandmother, Georgene Call of Angola.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Hudson United Brethren Church, with Pastor Craig Burkholder officiating. Calling will also be held at the church from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday with a Masonic service at 8 p.m. and Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. with an Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association Memorial Service at 8 p.m.

A memorial service will be held at Brown Funeral Home in Flint, Mich., Wednesday at 7 p.m. The service will be presented by the Flint Fire Chaplains and will include the Flint Fire Color Guard along with local politicians and emergency personnel from the Flint area.

Burial will be at Circle Cemetery in Hudson.

Memorials are to Hudson Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 191, Hudson, IN 46747.

Condolences can be sent to Johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Weldon Fair

FORT WAYNE — Weldon C. Fair, 65, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

On Aug. 22, 1937, he was born in Fort Wayne to Perry and Mary Jane (Rhoads) Fair, both deceased.

The lifetime Fort Wayne resident was a route driver with Pepsi-Cola for 28 years and retired in 1993. He also worked as a security guard with Allen Protection Service at Scott's Foods.

He was a member of the Navy Club, New Haven 245.

Surviving are a son, Roger Fair of Albion; three daughters, Cynthia Ann Jones of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Marsha Howard and Michelle Mahathy, both of Fort Wayne; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a companion, Patsy Mahathy of Fort Wayne.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home, 1140 Lake Ave., Fort Wayne. Burial will be in Prairie Grove Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Calling will be from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

Donald Diggins

LAGRANGE — Donald R. Diggins, 83, of rural LaGrange, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, at Life Care Center in LaGrange.

Funeral arrangements are pending at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange.

Donald Baker

HOWE — Donald Baker, 88, died at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, in LaGrange Community Hospital, LaGrange.

Funeral arrangements are pending at Carney-Frost Funeral Home, Howe.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 2 2003

James Hart

ST. JOE — James A. Hart, 84, died Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, at 2 p.m. in the Laurels of DeKalb nursing home in Butler.

Mr. Hart was a lifetime farmer. He retired from International Harvester at Fort Wayne in 1980 after 30 years of service.

He was a deacon, trustee and member of the Coburn Corners Church of Christ and a member of the Spencerville Masonic Lodge.

Talented in vocal music and the banjo, harmonica and guitar, he was a member of the St. Joe Valley Boys Band in the 1930s and 1940s.

He was born Sept. 26, 1918, in DeKalb County to Jesse J. and Della (Mann) Hart.

He married Gladys M. Keener on Sept. 6, 1940, in Hillsdale, Mich. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, William and Phyllis of Springfield, Ohio, Gary and Roberta of Harlan and Dennis and Karen of St. Joe; a daughter, Evon Hart, and her special friend Cecil, of Auburn; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; one brother, Walter of Hicksville, Ohio; and three sisters, Lucille Monosmith, Leota Keppeher and Margaret Keppeher, all of Edgerton, Ohio.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Sue Ann Hart; his parents; one sister, Anna Belle Hart; and three brothers, Henry, Jesse and Leoral Hart.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday in the Coburn Corners Church of Christ. Pastor Todd Steere and Pastor Doug Holley will officiate. Burial will be in Newville Cemetery.

Calling is Monday after 2 p.m. at Brown Funeral Home, 706 N. Main St., Hicksville, Ohio, and Tuesday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the Coburn Corners Church of Christ.

Loretta Eicher

WOODBURN — Loretta M. Eicher, 72, died Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. Eicher was born in Fort Wayne. She had lived in the Woodburn area for 50 years.

She was a soda jerk for Feulling's Drug Store; a cook for Woodlan High School and the Townhouse Retirement Community; a baker for Beachy's Health Food Shop and Amanda's Bakery, where she made cinnamon rolls; and an independent home health aide who took care of stroke victims. She was a homemaker and baked cakes for weddings.

She was a member of Westwood Mennonite Church in Woodburn and its ladies auxiliary and ladies club.

She married Menno Eicher in 1947. He survives.

Also surviving are three daughters, Debbie Steury of Auburn, Anita Timmerman of Fort Wayne and Chrissy Rabbani of Sidney, Ohio; three sons, Terry of Fort Wayne, Jerry of Ontario, Canada, and Dean of Woodburn; three brothers, Junior Lake of Bedford, Ky., and Don Brososky and Larry Brososky, both of Fort Wayne; a sister, Barb Zehr; 15 grandchildren and 10 grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Westwood Mennonite Church, 4100 Becker Road, Woodburn. Burial will be in Harlan Cemetery.

Calling is Monday from 1-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to her husband.

Siler Embalming and Funeral Service is in charge of arrangements.

Donald Diggins

LAGRANGE — Donald R. Diggins, 83, of 4840S C.R. 150E, LaGrange, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, at the Life Care Center of LaGrange.

In Wolcottville on March 6, 1919, he was born to Harold H. and Ruth (Needham) Diggins. He married Joan Caton in LaGrange on March 11, 1945. She survives.

He was the former funeral director with Caton & Frurip Funeral Home and Furniture Store, LaGrange. He also owned LaGrange Title & Abstract Co. from 1970 to 1989.

Mr. Diggins was a World War II U.S. Army Air Corps veteran, and a member of the LaGrange American Legion, Meridian Sun Lodge No. 76 F & AM, Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Wayne, Mizpah Shrine of Fort Wayne and LaGrange County Shrine Club. He was a former LaGrange County Coroner and former LaGrange County Council member.

He was also a former member and the first president of LaGrange Jaycees and LaGrange Rotary.

Surviving are: four daughters and sons-in-law, Barbara and E.J. Walter, Anderson, Elaine and Terry Flynn, Moab, Utah, Jan and W.A. Montgomery, Indianapolis, and Cathy and James McKinley, New Palestine, Ind.; a sister, Joyce Diggins, Kendallville; a brother, Vance W. Diggins, Empire, Mich.; and 11 grandchildren.

Funeral services are at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange with the Rev. Dexter Garman officiating. Burial is in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange. American Legion graveside service will follow the funeral services.

Masonic service is at 6 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

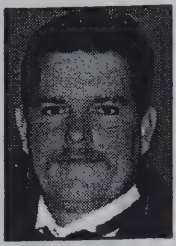
Calling is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 2 2003

The following obituary is being reprinted to clarify information.

Gregory Clingan



Mr. Clingan

HUDSON — Gregory Lynn Clingan, 35, of Hudson, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, in a semi wreck near Flint, Mich.

Mr. Clingan was born Jan 21, 1968, in Auburn to Robert and Emily (Call) Clingan. They survive.

He married Jodi Lyons on Oct. 27, 2001, at the Hudson United Brethren Church, and she survives.

He was a truck driver for North Central Co-op, and fire chief of the Hudson Volunteer Fire Department.

He was a member of the Ashley Masonic Lodge No. 614, a reserve town marshal for the town of Hudson and a member of the Budd Bass Busters. Clingan was also an emergency medical technician for the Steuben County Emergency Medical Service.

Also surviving are two daughters, Kayla and Madison, and three stepchildren, Alicia Harding, Brooklyn Lyons and Dallas Lyons, all living at home; two brothers, Doug of Orland and Jeff of Stroh; and his grandmother, Georgene Call of Angola.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Hudson United Brethren Church, with Pastor Craig Burkholder officiating. Calling will also be held at the church from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday with a Masonic service at 8 p.m. and Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. with an Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association Memorial Service at 8 p.m.

Burial will be at Circle Cemetery in Hudson.

Memorials are to Hudson Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 191, Hudson, IN 46747.

Johnson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Condolences can be sent to Johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Donald Baker

HOWE — Donald C. Baker, 88, of 103 South St., died at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, in LaGrange Community Hospital, LaGrange.

On Nov. 14, 1914, in Portland, Ore., he was born to Leon B. and Augusta (Bloom) Baker. He married Mary Ann Simpson on Nov. 2, 1946, in Saint Helens, Ore. She survives.

He worked in human resources at a paper mill in Saint Helens.

Mr. Baker belonged to the 104th Timberwolf Division and received the bronze star and the French Croix de Guerre, the highest award given by the French government to a non-French citizen.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Leon (Butch) and Kathleen Baker, Howe; and five grandchildren.

Services are at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Carney-Frost Funeral Home, Howe, with the Rev. George Douglass officiating. Burial is in Riverside Cemetery, Howe.

Calling is 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Louise Walkup

KENDALLVILLE — Louise O. Walkup, 74, died Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

In West Virginia on Nov. 6, 1928, she was born to Carl and Mabel (Shreaves) Osborne. She married Forrest Clayton Walkup on Aug. 15, 1947. He survives.

She attended Harvest Community Church in Kendallville and was a cashier at the former Rogers Market in Kendallville until retiring in 1984.

Also surviving are three daughters and one son-in-law, Brenda and Ed Froelich, Kendallville, and Barbara Allen and Kathy Zimmerman, both of Fort Wayne; two brothers, Clarence Osborne, Silver Springs, Md., and Carl Osborne, of Pennsylvania; a sister, Glenna Sharer, Dunedin, Fla.; three grandsons, Todd Froelich and Jardan Pyle, both of Kendallville, and Arthur Allen, Fort Wayne; two granddaughters, Amy Sloffer, Fort Wayne, and Stacy Zimmerman, Nashville, Tenn.; and three great-grandchildren.

A grandson, Shane Zimmerman, preceded her in death.

Services are at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville with the Rev. Paul Griebel officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Calling is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Send condolences or sign the guest book at www.hitefuneralhome.com

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 2 2003

Gulick lived life on the fast track

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

FORT WAYNE — By trade, he was a truck driver.

And even though he loved the laid back pace of the open road, Robert C. "Bobby" Gulick, who succumbed to cancer on Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2003, also found happiness behind the wheel of a race car. Bobby, a former Angola resident who had been living in Fort Wayne for the past several years, was a well-known driver in the sportsman class at Angola Motor Speedway on and off since his early 20s.

"Back, I'd say in, oh, the 1970s, he raced a lot," said Bobby's wife, Cecilia, said. "He dropped out of it for a while, but he was really back into it the last four or five years or so. It was the love of his life."

Bobby met Cecilia, in 1989 while he was laid over on a truck driving run near Louisville, Ky.

Mr. Gulick

"I was working in a hotel, and he was laid over in Louisville," Cecilia remembered. "We've been together ever since."

The Gulicks were married on July 5, 1996.

Bobby came by his love of auto racing naturally. His father, Augustus, was a race car driver until he was 58 years old.

"He had a love of danger and a love of that sport," said Bobby's brother, Irv. "He was well-known in his class out there at the speedway. He raced for 20 some years or more all together."

Bobby was diagnosed with esophogeal cancer in October 2001.

"He was a good family man, and he had a very keen sense of humor," said Irv. "He even had his sense of humor toward the end. He was bedridden, and he got up when he shouldn't have. He fell, and my sister-in-law had to call the ambulance to come get him up. The paramedics got there, and here he was on the floor saying, 'I've fallen and I can't get up.' You know, like on the commercial."

Irv said even though his brother was very ill, Bobby maintained the easy-going nature he had throughout his entire life.

"Nothing bothered him, nothing got him riled," he said. "He was a funny guy, a hard worker, and a fun guy to be around."

Cecilia agreed.

"He made light of everything," she said. "He never had sour moments, even during his sick time."

Bobby's daughter, Leann Quinn, said she will always have fond memories of her father.

"He was tall, he was strong, and he was goofy. To describe him in one word, he was funny," she said, laughing and choking back tears at the same time. "That's it, I guess. My dad was funny."

Rome City man taught family Christian values

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

ROME CITY — He was not "rich and famous," but he was rich, nonetheless. According to his wife Dorothy, Leonard C. Walter Jr. had a reputation as a loving husband, father and grandfather.

"He taught his family Christian values," she said. The couple's three children, Jodi, Eric and Len, learned to be honest and responsible, to exhibit respect for themselves and others by their language and behavior. They learned to take good care of their own personal property, and the property of others, on the job or elsewhere.

Mr. Walter

Mr. Walter, 67, died Jan. 18, 2003, following a five-year illness.

"Mr. Walter was a quiet man," said his pastor, Mike Booher. Booher said Mr. Walter was a regular attender and a person who was a steady, behind-the-scenes influence.

According to his family, Mr. Walter taught by example, as much as anything, that a man's first responsibility is to his family.

He worked as a drycleaner and in maintenance at A-1 Production before retiring in 1997. When times were lean, though, he often took an extra job or two to make sure there was enough for the fun things in life. According to all who knew him, he loved and respected "the great outdoors," and taught his children the same. The family enjoyed many good times camping, hunting and fishing together.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 2003
2

Fishing tied bond between Altona man, sons

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

ALTONA — Charles McBride was very proud of his four sons.

By the time each boy — John, Jerald, Steve and Rival — reached the age of 3, they were fishing with their dad. Later, all four boys played in a musical group. Once, dad and sons traveled to Buffalo, N.Y., for an International Guitar League contest.

All four boxed in the DeKalb County Boxing Club. Some fights took the men to Chicago; John would later box in the Marine Corps, and Rival in the Army at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Mr. McBride

"Dad was very proud of all his boys," said Rival, of Columbia City.

Mr. McBride died Jan. 23, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor nursing home in Garrett at the age of 89. He was a favorite of the staff there, who loved Mr. McBride for his constant smile and quiet, gentlemanly behavior.

He was a trainman on the B&O Railroad for 35 years, retiring in 1976. With his sons, he fished "50 percent of the lakes in northeast Indiana, and many more in Michigan and Canada," Rival said. "He loved to fish, and we gave them away as fast as we caught them … except for the ones we ate, of course."

The love of fishing led Rival to become very good at hand-tying lures. His dad was ecstatic when a box of Rival's lures made their way to the tackle box of Robert Redford, the actor. "Boy, was dad proud," Rival said.

"In all my life, I never heard anybody say anything bad about dad," Rival admitted. "And I — all of us boys — wanted to be just like him."

A widower for 17 years, Mr. McBride was well-known for a one-acre garden. When a stroke disabled him and he was moved to the nursing home, Rival and John took turns taking their dad for daily rides after lunch.

Born in Huntertown, he lived in Altona 82 years.

David Cranston

ORANGE BEACH, ALA.— David John Cranston, 36, of Orange Beach, Ala., formerly of Fremont, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, in Gulf Shores, Ala.

On June 9, 1966, in Fort Wayne, he was born to Arthur William and Joanne E. (Baysinger) Cranston. They survive in Orange Beach.

He was self-employed in the pressure washing business and enjoyed hunting, fishing and playing cards.

Also surviving are two brothers, Timothy Scott Cranston, Fishers, Ind., and Michael Lee Cranston, Gulf Shores, Ala.; two nieces; and two nephews.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

Services are 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Angola, with the Rev. Fred Pasche officiating. Burial is in Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Calling is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Beams Funeral Home, Fremont.

The family requests prayers for David John Cranston.

Birdenia Williams

PLEASANT LAKE — Birdenia May Williams, 75, died Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, at her daughter Shirley Riehl's home in Talbott, Tenn.

Funeral arrangements are pending at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 2 2003

M. Alma Herber

AVILLA — Sister M. Alma Joseph Herber O.S.F., 91, died at 6:25 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, in Provena Sacred Heart Home, Avilla.

On Sept. 27, 1911, in Fort Wayne, she was born at Fred and Mary Brigid (Wyss) Herber.

She was in the religious order for 76 years, and a Franciscan Sister of the Sacred Heart for 57 years.

Sister Herber served in hospitals in Illinois and California and was director of nursing at the Sacred Heart Home in Avilla from 1964 to 1970. She was an x-ray technician and phsiotherapist.

Surviving are two brothers, Phillip J. and Walter F. Herber, addresses unknown.

She was preceded in deaty by two sisters, Alma Freiburger and Amella Boday, and seven brothers, Benjamin J., Frank J., Fred M., Rheinhart A., Leo J., Charles J. and the Rev. Max J. Herber.

Services are at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Provena Sacred Heart Nursing Home Chapel in Avilla with the Rev. Daniel Leeuw officiating. Burial is in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Avilla.

Calling is after 2 p.m. Monday at Provena Sacred Heart Nursing Home in Avilla with a wake service at 6 p.m.

In lieu of flowers a memorial may be made to the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart Senior Sisters Retirement Fund, 9201 W. St. Francis Road, Frankfort, Ill 60423-8335.

Mildred Shippy

ROCHESTER — Mildred L. Shippy, 92, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, in Woodlawn Hospital, Rochester, after a two-week illness.

Mrs. Shippy

In Booneville, Ind., on Sept. 6, 1910, she was born to John M. and Margaret (Bennie) Johnson. She married Emmett Shippy in Ligonier on April 7, 1932. He preceded her in death on March 28, 1984.

She was a homemaker and a member of Grace United Methodist Church, Rochester.

Mrs. Shippy had lived in Rochester since 1984, and lived in Kendallville from 1975 to 1984.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Stuart and Janet Shippy, Rochester; four daughters and sons-in-law, Janis and Son Swank, Kendallville, Betty and Jerry Chapman, New Carlisle, Patricia and Dorman Wolff, Elkhart, and Susan Kay and Edward Walters, South Bend; a brother, Thomas M. Johnson, Kendallville; 16 grandchildren; and 32 great-grandchildren.

A sister, Lula Mae Millard, preceded her in death.

Services are at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, Kendallville, with the Rev. Dr. David Hogsett officiating. Burial is in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Calling is 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Grace United Methodist Church music department.

Tobias Pfenning

HOWE — Tobias H. "Nick" Pfenning, 66, of 1045E C.R. 485N, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at his residence.

On Aug. 2, 1936, in Howe, he was born to Tobias F. and Ila M. (Ridley) Pfennning, who are deceased. He married Sandra L. Prestidge on May 7,1955, in Nottawa, Mich. She survives.

He was a lifetime Howe resident and retired from Ross Laboratories in Sturgis, Mich., where he worked from 1955 to 1991.

Mr. Pfenning was a member of the LaGrange Missionary Church, the V.F.W. Dad's Club in Sturgis, Mich., and an avid golfer.

Also surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Kimba and Steve Lee, Sturgis, Marjorie and Russell Lewis, Howe, and Bambi Walley, Sturgis; two sons and daughters-in-law, Boe and Stephanie Pfenning, Portage, Mich., and Nick and Tina Pfenning, Shipshewana; three brothers, James and Fred Pfenning, both of Howe, and Max Pfenning, Colon, Mich.; a sister, Martha Wallace, LaGrange; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

She was preceeded in death by a son, Herby Pfenning in 1965, and a sister, Merlyn Sybesma.

Services are 10 a.m. Wednesday at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with the Revs. Josh Hossler and Bradley Ulick officiating. Burial is in Riverside Cemetery, Howe.

Calling is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the LaGrange Missionary Church.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 3 2003

Jane Miller

SHIPSHEWANA — Jane Renee Miller, 17, died at 5:15 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 2, 2003, at the scene of an accident on U.S. 6 just east of C.R. 133 in Elkhart County.

She lived in the Shipshewana area all her life. She was working at Jayco Inc.'s Plant 51 in Middlebury as a final finisher. She was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

She was born in LaGrange Sept. 13, 1985, to Lloyd and Ruth (Lambright) Miller. Her father preceded her in death on May 23, 1992. Her mother and stepfather, Ruth and Nelson Lee Miller, survive.

Also surviving are a sister and brother-in-law, Joann and David Lee Schlabach of Shipshewana; grandparents, Ervin C. and Sarah Miller of Middlebury and grandfather Harley E. Miller of Shipshewana; a sister and brother-in-law, Joann and David Lee Schlabach of Shipshewana; a nephew, Kevin Nelson Schlabach; twin nieces, Kassandra Jane and Krissia Jean Schlabach; and a special friend, Johnny Yoder of Middlebury, who was also in the accident.

She was also preceded in death by her grandmother, Clara Schwartz.

Services will be Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Ivan Hochstetler at 1840 N. C.R. 675W, Shipshewana, with Bishop Lewis Hochstetler and the home ministers of the Old Order Amish Church officiating. Burial will be at East Barrens Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling will be Tuesday after 2 p.m. and all day Wednesday at the family's home at 1785 N. C.R. 675W, Shipshewana.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home of Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Myra Russell

WOLCOTTVILLE — Myra J. Russell, 60, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker and nursing aide at McCray Memorial Hospital in Kendallville and LaGrange County Hospital in LaGrange. She lived most of her life in Noble and LaGrange counties. She was a member of Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church.

She was born in Kendallville Nov. 24, 1942, to Howard A. and Helen (Strouse) Smith. Her mother survives in Kendallville.

She married John H. Russell on Feb. 3, 1961, in Kendallville. He survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and one son-in-law, Nanette L. Russell of Wolcottville and Natalie and Bruce Bontrager of Wolcottville; and one son, J. Robert Russell of Wolcottville; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Roxanne and Michael Stouder of Lafayette and Deborah and Michael Bruce of Kendallville; and one brother and sister-in-law, Michael G. and Cindy Smith of Kendallville; and six grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Richard Frederick officiating. Burial will be in Woodruff Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church.

Burnetta Buzzard

WARREN — Burnetta Ann "Blondie" Buzzard, 77, died at 10:25 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at her home.

She was a retired secretary for Farm Bureau Insurance in Huntington. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Warren. She was a 1943 graduate of Andrews High School.

She was born in Andrews June 1, 1925, to Frank and Dorothy (Aldridge) Huston.

She married Dale Eugene Buzzard in Warren on Jan. 19, 1945. He survives.

Also surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Kathy Buzzard of Warren, Konnie and Gregg Stevenson of Danville, and Doris and Jim Croy of Kendallville; two sons and daughters-in-law, Charlie and Juanita Buzzard and Robert and Penny Buzzard, all of Warren; two brothers, Marvin Huston of Huntington and Alvin Huston of Apache Junction, Ariz.; 15 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Donald E. Buzzard; three brothers, Harold, Jerry and Roy Huston; and three sisters, Doris Reynolds, Lois Graham and Vivian Huston.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Glancy Funeral Homes H. Brown & Son Chapel in Warren, with the Rev. Bill Fisher officiating. Burial will be in Gardens of Memory in Marion.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Lung Association.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 3 2003

Lloyd Myers

AUBURN — Lloyd H. Myers, 110, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at Betz Nursing Home.

Mr. Myers was a farmer in DeKalb County from 1925 to 1944. He owned and operated a dairy serving Ashley and Hudson for 11 years, then moved to Auburn and worked at Kroger, Leas Market, the Gamble store and Auburn City Hardware.

He was a member of the First Christian Church in Auburn and a former member of the Cedar Lake Church of Christ, Waterloo.

He enjoyed social activities at the Heimach Center, the 76'ers euchre group and the senior group at the Auburn Moose Lodge.

He was born March 20, 1892, in Smithfield Township of DeKalb County.

His first wife, Elmira Goodwin, died Sept. 10, 1970. His second wife, Ursula (Mountz) Drerup, died June 10, 1990.

Surviving are two daughters, Mary Rank and Doretha J. Curry, both of Auburn; a stepdaughter and her husband, Esther and Gerry Souder of Auburn; a stepdaughter-in-law, Margaret Drerup of Auburn; three grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, 14 great-great grandchildren and 15 stepgrandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Orville J.; two stepsons, Paul and Bernard Drerup; a daughter, Judy Kinsel; two sons-in-law, Lloyd Rank and Maurice Curry; three brothers, Vern, Ernest and Homer Myers; and one sister, Nettie Grate.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday in McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home, 502 N. Main St., Auburn. Burial will be in Fairfield Cemetery of rural Corunna.

Calling is today from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the First Christian Church of Auburn, Heimach Center of Auburn or Cedar Lake Church of Christ, Waterloo.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct information provided to the funeral home.

M. Alma Herber

AVILLA — Sister M. Alma Joseph Herber O.S.F., 91, died at 6:25 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, in Provena Sacred Heart Home, Avilla.

She was born in Fort Wayne Sept. 27, 1911, to Fred and Mary Brigid (Wyss) Herber.

She was in the religious order of the Franciscan Sister of the Sacred Heart for 72 years.

Sister Herber served in hospitals in Illinois and California and was director of nursing at the Sacred Heart Home in Avilla from 1964 to 1970. She was an X-ray technician and physiotherapist.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by nine brothers, Phillip J., Walter F., Benjamin J., Frank J., Fred M., Rheinhart A., Leo J., Charles J. and the Rev. Max J. Herber; and two sisters, Alma Freiburger and Amella Boday.

Services will be Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. at Provena Sacred Heart Home Chapel in Avilla with the Rev. Daniel Leeuw officiating. Burial is in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Avilla.

Calling is today after 2 p.m. at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla with a wake service at 6 p.m.

In lieu of flowers a memorial may be made to the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart Senior Sisters Retirement Fund, 9201 W. St. Francis Road, Frankfort, IL 60423-8335.

Thomas Fisel

LIGONIER — Thomas E. Fisel Sr., 65, died at 2:20 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 2, 2003, at his home. He had been ill with cancer since September 2002.

He had been a heavy equipment operator for the Indiana Department of Transportation for 17 years. Before that he worked for the Ligonier Telephone Co. He lived in the Ligonier area since 1956, coming from Indianapolis. He was a member of Burr Oak Church. He enjoyed farming and doing mechanical work on race cars and tractors, especially John Deere tractors.

He was born in South Bend Oct. 21, 1937, to Everett E. and Evelyn M. (Crothers) Fisel. His mother survives in Ligonier.

He married Patricia A. (Schlemmer) March 22, 1957, in the Solomon's Creek Church parsonage. She survives at home.

Also surviving with his mother are a son and daughter-in-law, Thomas E. Jr. and Ronda Fisel of Goshen; two daughters and sons-in-law, Teresa A. and Richard Linville of Middlebury and Pamela M. and Jerry Howard of New Paris; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with Pastor Mark Burritt officiating. Burial will be at Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home and one hour before services.

Memorials may be made to the Burr Oak Church or Goshen Care At Home Hospice.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 3 2003

Martha Roberson

CHURUBUSCO — Martha Ellen Roberson, 76, died at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at her home.

She was a homemaker and member of Eel River Baptist Church. She was district president of Concordia Rebekah Lodge 41, Summit L.E.A. 16, and L.E.P.M. 17.

She was born in Bimble, Ky., April 2, 1926, to John Leslie and Elizabeth (Brock) Teague.

Mrs. Roberson

She married Jesse Howard Roberson Sept. 7, 1943, in Churubusco. He survives. The couple were married 59 years.

Also surviving are her son and daughter-in-law, Leslie and Sharon Roberson of Churubusco; two grandsons, Roy Roberson of Fort Wayne and Ben Roberson of Lakewood, Colo.; three great-grandchildren, Brooke, Austin and Caleigh of Fort Wayne; a nephew James "Oscar" Blankton of Arizona and several other nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by one brother and five sisters,

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. in Eel River Baptist Church, with the Rev. Arthur Danial officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. with a Rebekah Lodge memorial service at 6 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Churubusco, and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Concordia Arthritis Fund or donor's choice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to marthar693@aol.com.

Ruby Koby

MENTONE — Ruby E. Koby, 81, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at Kosciusko Community Hospital in Warsaw.

She retired from RCA in Marion after several years of service.

She was born in Huntington.

Her husband, James H., died in 1990.

Surviving are a daughter, Betty Runkle of Wolcottville; a son, Jimmy Dean of Mentone; three sisters, Madelene Long and Wanda Chopson, both of Warren, and Wilma Slater of Fort Wayne; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 3 p.m. at Glancy Funeral Homes, H. Brown & Son Chapel, Warren. Burial will be in Masonic Cemetery, Warren.

Calling will be two hours before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Kosciusko Home Care & Hospice, Warsaw.

Wayne Suever

MARION — Wayne A. Suever, 66, died at 7:25 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Mr. Suever

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1953 to 1959. He was the owner of Executive Office Machines from 1964 to 1987 and retired from Devoe Chevrolet-Cadillac in 1999. He was a member of the Van Buren American Legion and Loyal Order of Moose 253 in Marion. He was a member of St. Paul Catholic Church and resided in Marion since 1965 and spent his summers at Dallas Lake in Wolcottville.

He was born in Delphos, Ohio, Sept. 3, 1936, to George and Rose (Heising) Suever.

He married Sue Guenin on June 6, 1959, in Indianapolis. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and one son-in-law, Anne Hanch of Chicago and Karen and Michael Strawser of Wolcottville; a son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Shannon Suever of Upland; a brother and sister-in-law, Bill and Marilyn Suever of Wolcottville; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Marilyn and Bill Ponder of Wolcottville, Sharon and Tom Decker of Huntertown and Diane Daggett of Lawrence, Kan.; and five grandchildren, Bryce and Colton Strawser, Michaela Garza, and Brittan and Braden Suever.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Dorothy Keck and Betty Holtz.

Services will be Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Marion, with Father Richard J. Weisenberger officiating. Burial will be at 3:30 p.m. at Woodland Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Berna Peterman

LAGRANGE — Berna M. Peterman, 95, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

She was a homemaker and schoolteacher. She moved to LaGrange from Indianapolis in 1956. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church and the Mu Chapter of Tri Kappa, both of LaGrange.

She was born in Iroquois, Ill., Aug. 4, 1907, to Daniel W. and Laura (Padgett) Markley.

She married Kenneth G. Peterman June 20, 1926, in Lima, Ohio. He died March 4, 1979.

Surviving are a daughter, Marcia Perdriau of Hudson, Ohio; and one son and daughter-in-law, Mark L. and Myrna Peterman of LaGrange; six grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a brother, Wence Markley, and one grandson, Michael Peterman, who died in December 1980.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 3 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Brian VanOsdol officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be Saturday two hours before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

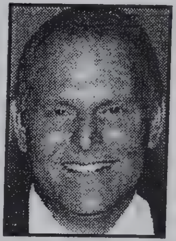
Calling will be Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, Fairmount.

Memorials are to LaGrange Community Foundation, c/o Wolcott Park Fund, 109 E. Central St., LaGrange, IN 46761.

Condolences may be e-mailed to armeshunt@comteck.com.

Kurt Kauffman

FORT WAYNE — Kurt Kauffman, 47, died Sunday, Feb. 2, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.


Mr. Kauffman

He was a purchasing manager with Homier Distributing in Huntington for 16 years.

He was born in Fort Wayne July 1, 1955, to K. Paul and Helen Kauffman.

Surviving are his wife, Christine Antalis Kauffman of Columbia City; three daughters, Stephanie, Katie and Shannon Kauffman, all at home; one sister, Karen Andrews of New Haven; and his father and stepmother, K. Paul and Arla Kauffman of Rome City.

His mother, Helen, died in 1978.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Covington Knolls Funeral Home.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to an education fund for the Kauffman children, Erin's House or Make-A-Wish of Indiana Inc.

Margaret Moran

FORT WAYNE — Margaret E. Moran, 88, died Monday, Feb. 3, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital following a lengthy illness.

Her husband, Peter A. Moran, died in 1969.

Among survivors are three sons and daughters-in-law, John D. and Mary Moran and James M. and Susan Moran, all of Fort Wayne, and Brian R. and Janie Moran of Wyoming, Mich.; and a daughter, Patricia E. Moran of Fort Wayne.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 4 2003

Robert Weingart

ALAMOGORDO, N.M. — Robert F. Weingart, 91, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center in Alamogordo.

He graduated from Kendallville High School and Indiana University, where he earned a degree in business administration.

He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He was called to active duty immediately following the attack on Pearl Harbor and served in the infantry as part of Patton's Third Army. His division was in the drive across France, Germany and Austria and received awards for campaigns in the Rhineland and Central Europe. He won the Bronze Star for heroic achievement, the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the European Theater of Operations ribbon with five battle stars.

After discharge in 1946, he worked with his father-in-law, Milo Gurney, in the casket business until retirement in 1976. He served on the Kendallville City Council for two terms, and was appointed by the governor to serve on the Noble County Selective Service (draft) board for three years.

After retirement, he and his wife, Ferne, moved to Alamogordo in 1976, where he was active in the Senior Citizens Center, was president of the Nutrition Council for two years and participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program for 13 years.

He was born in Kendallville Aug. 3, 1911.

He married Ferne Ruth Gurney Sept. 18, 1937, in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are his children, Pamela of Hudson, Wis., Milo of Green Valley, Ariz., and Robert of Muncie; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were a sister, Josephine Wells, and a brother, George Weingart.

There will be no services, but burial will be in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Memorials are to Grace United Methodist Church, Alamogordo, N.M.

Phillip Cole

FORT WAYNE — Phillip E. Cole, 61, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He was former owner of Western-HRS Employment Service.

He was born in Wolf Lake.

Surviving are his wife, Nancy A.; two sons, Rodney J. Cole of Wabash and Randy R. Cole of Indianapolis; two sisters, LaDonna Wiltshire of Fort Wayne and Betsy J. Stohlman of Albion; two brothers, Bill W. Cole of Houston and Ross J. Cole of Rio Verde, Ariz.; and a grandchild.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

Calling will be today from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Maplewood Park Funeral Home and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the church or the Leukemia Foundation.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 2003

5

Harold Fry

COLUMBIA CITY — Harold "Harry" L. Fry, 68, died at 9:35 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3, 2003, at Whitley Memorial Hospital.

He graduated from Wolf Lake High School. He lived his entire life in Noble and Whitley counties. He retired in February 1998 from De Ro Manufacturing where he worked as a carpenter for 28 years.

He was born in Wolf Lake Nov. 26, 1934, to Ralph and Hattie (Jerraid) Fry.

He married Rose Lindsey April 22, 1955, in Huntington. She survives in Columbia City.

Also surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, Len and Tami Fry, Ed and Joannie Fry and Chad and Holly Fry, all of Columbia City; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Pam and Leo Tackett of Ligonier, Toni Gomez of Fort Wayne and Deb and Cliff Bidding of Albion; one brother, Richard Fry of Columbia City; five sisters, Betty Brown of Jackson, Mich., Pauline Headley of Reading, Mich., Alice Koch and Phyllis Fry, both of Columbia City, and Judy Bowers of Woodburn; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one stepgrandchild; and five stepgreat-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two brothers.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Shoda-Wilkinson Funeral Home, with Pastor Phil Blake officiating. Burial will be at Merriam Christian Chapel Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Salvation Army or to donor's choice.

Theda Young

ANGOLA — Theda Marilyn Young, 83, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She had retired from Rainbow Beauty and Gifts in Angola and the IN Fashions in Butler.

Mrs. Young

She was a member of Steuben County Business and Professional Women.

She was born July 18, 1919, in Hudson, to Heber and Maybelle (Ziebelle) Leas. She married Allan Fowler, and he preceded her in death in 1968. Her second husband, Clayton "Sparky" Young, died in 1999, and a brother, Lynn Leas, died in 1925.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Lynn and Karen Stockwell of Hudson and Allan and Linda Fowler of Belle Mead, N.J.; three stepdaughters, Roxanne McCavit of Allen, Mich., and Cindy Garcia and Lori Wigent, both of Reading, Mich.; a stepson, Barry Young of North Adams, Mich.; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; 13 stepgrandchildren; and one stepgreat-grandchild.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson, with the Rev. Wayne C. Berkesch officiating. Calling will be Friday from 4-8 p.m.

Burial will be in Circle Cemetery, Hudson. Memorials are to the cemetery in care of Johnson Funeral Home, P.O. Box 95, Hudson, IN 46747. Condolences can be e-mailed to the family at johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Bishop Joseph Crowley

SOUTH BEND — Joseph R. Crowley, 88, retired auxiliary bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese, died at about 4 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2003.

He was well known throughout the diocese. Following a five-year banking career and service in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1946, he was ordained a priest at age 38. Bishop John F. Noll conducted his ordination May 1, 1953, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. In 1971, he was ordained auxiliary bishop of the local diocese.

In nearly 50 years as a priest, he served in Fort Wayne, as well as in Pierceton, Lagro and South Bend. In addition to several other duties, he was on the council of "Today's Catholic," and was editor of "Our Sunday Visitor," in Huntington. He was moderator of the U.S. Bishops' press panel during the final session of the Second Vatican Council and chairman of the U.S. Catholic conference's committee on communication.

Pope John Paul II accepted his letter of retirement on May 8, 1990, effective July 15, 1990.

Services will be Saturday at noon at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, with Bishop John M. D'Arcy officiating. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery, Fort Wayne, at 5:30 p.m.

Calling will be Thursday from 4 to 9 p.m. with rosary at 4 p.m. Father Michael Heintz, administrator of St. Matthew Parish, will preside at a 7 p.m. Mass.

On Friday, there will be a Mass at 9 a.m. with St. Matthew School children, followed by viewing. There will be a rosary at 4 p.m., a vigil conducted by Bishop D'Arcy at 7 p.m. and viewing will continue until 9 p.m.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 5 2003

Margaret Moran

FORT WAYNE — Margaret E. Moran, 88, died at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne. She had been a resident of Regency Place for the past year and had been at the hospital since Friday.

Mrs. Moran

She moved to Fort Wayne as a child and graduated from North Side High School in 1933 and completed her bachelor's degree from Indiana University in 1937.

She was a driver for the Allen County Cancer Society and worked as a volunteer at the Allen County Public Library. She enjoyed reading, gardening and outdoor activities. She enjoyed watching Indiana University basketball.

She was born in Harlan Nov. 14, 1914, to Clinton John and Bernice (Boger) Grubb.

She married Peter A. Moran Aug. 20, 1941. He died in 1969.

Surviving are her daughter, Patricia E. Moran of Fort Wayne; three sons and daughters-in-law, John D. and Mary Moran and James M. and Susan Moran, all of Fort Wayne, and Brian R. and Janie Moran of Apple Valley, Minn.; eight grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by one son, Tony Moran, who died in 1966.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with Father Chris Young of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church officiating. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the Allen County Public Library.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

The following obituary is being republished to add and correct information provided to the newspaper.

Jerry Kjendalen

ASHLEY — Jerry Kjendalen, 91, died Sunday, Feb. 2, 2003, at Indiana Veterans Home in West Lafayette.

He was a retired accountant and worked for Smith Enterprises in Angola for 15 years. He was a World War II U.S. Army veteran.

He was born Aug. 12, 1911, in Iola, Wis., to Henry and Alma (Matson) Kjendalen. His wife, Hilda, preceded him in death in 1988.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, James and Barbara Kjendalen of Hudson and Ronald Kjendalen of Natchez, Miss.; two sisters, Ruth Beck of Portland, Ore., and Helen Johnson-Dickson of Illinois; four grandchildren, Dr. Lance Kjendalen, Eric Kjendalen, Darrell Bartel and Pam Engle; and five great-grandchildren, Brianna, Nick, Zack, Holly and Tiffany.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Ashley-Hudson Manor, 830 W. State St., Ashley, with calling one hour before services. The Rev. Craig Burkholder will officiate. Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

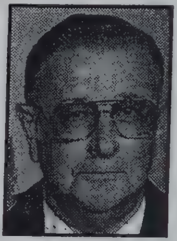
Glen Judd

COLUMBIA CITY — Glen E. Judd, 77, died at 12:45 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2003, at his home. He had been in failing health for two years.

He lived in Thorncreek Township and graduated from Thorncreek School and Columbia City High School. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army Air Corps. He was honorably discharged Oct. 17, 1946.

He retired from Dana Corp. in Fort Wayne July 31, 1987, with 40 years of service. He enjoyed woodworking and crafting original pieces during his retirement. He was a member of American Legion Post 98.

He was born in Whitley County, May 19, 1925, to Clarence and Effie May (Appleton) Judd.



Mr. Judd

He married Evelyn M. Hartman Dec. 3, 1945. She died Jan. 11.

Surviving are three sons and two daughter-in-laws, Dennis L. and Cindy Judd and Randall L. Judd, all of Columbia City, and Jeffrey G. and Chris Judd of Pierceton; six grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; a brother, Franklin Judd of New York; and three sisters, Faith Karst of Columbia City, and Edith Burnworth and Wilma Crabill, both of Garrett.

He was preceded in death by seven brothers, Lester, Gerald, Ralph, Kenneth, Dale, Harold and Donald; and three sisters, Hazel and Elma Judd and Eileen Moore.

Services will be Friday at 1:30 p.m. in Smith & Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with the Rev. Myron Drent of Country Bible Church of North Webster officiating. Burial will be in Nolt Cemetery with military honors by American Legion Post 98.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

ALBION NEW ERA

FEBRUARY 5 2003

Homer E. Miller

Homer E. Miller, 82, died Thursday, January 30, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Born in Payne, Ohio, he was a farmer and retired in 1984 as a maintenance worker from BF Goodrich after 26 years. He was a World War II Army veteran, earning a Purple Heart; Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon with two Bronze Stars; and a Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Star.

Surviving are his wife, Betty Jean; a daughter, Cathy Wolf of Albion; two sisters, Helen Major of Antwerp, Ohio, and Evelyn Baker of Birmingham, Alabama; and two grandchildren. A son, Richard Ray, preceded him in death.

Services were 2:30 p.m. Monday, February, 3, 2003, at E. Harper & Son Funeral Home, New Haven. Burial was in Lehman Cemetery, Payne.

Memorials to American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Weldon Fair

FORT WAYNE – Weldon C. Fair, 65, died Thursday, January 30, 2003, at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

On August 22, 1937, he was born in Fort Wayne to Perry and Mary Jane (Rhoads) Fair, both deceased.

The lifetime Fort Wayne resident was a route driver with Pepsi-Cola for 28 years and retired in 1993. He also worked as a security guard with Allen Protection Service at Scott's Foods.

He was a member of the Navy Club, New Haven 245.

Surviving are a son, Roger Fair of Albion; three daughters, Cynthia Ann Jones of Scottsdale, Arizona, and Marsha Howard and Michelle Mahathy, both of Fort Wayne; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a companion, Patsy Mahathy of Fort Wayne.

Services were held Monday, February, 3, 2003 at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home, Fort Wayne. Burial was in Prairie Grove Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Memorials are to the family.

Mary Ruth Collins

Mary Ruth Collins, 81, died Friday, January 31, 2003 at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

Born in Marion, Indiana on September 3, 1921, she was the daughter of James Carl and Sarah Louise (Ottley Brown) Sproat.

She worked for Hunkler Products in Huntington as a packer and also was door greeter for Schafer Funeral Home in Roanoke. She was a member of Seminary United Methodist Church in Roanoke for 44 years.

Mary enjoyed crocheting and reading. She was a loving wife and mother who dedicated her life to God and her family.

Survivors include her two sons, Perry M. and his wife, Clare of Roanoke and William A. and his wife, Susie of Fort Wayne; four daughters, Mary Sue Ottinger and her husband, Rex of Roanoke, Toni L. Fudge and her husband, Dennis of Roanoke, Patricia Luckey and her husband, Conver, of Kimmell and Deellen McCormick of Fort Wayne; 17 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren; four sisters, Cena Edwards of Michigan, Dorothy Spencer and Johanna Sproat, both of Marion, Roberta Thorne of Pennsylvania; and a brother, John Sproat of Marion. She was preceded in death by her husband, William L., in 1991; three brothers and one sister.

Services were held Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. and graveside service at 3:00 p.m. Burial was at East Hill Cemetery in Arlington, Indiana. Memorial are to Visiting Nurse Service's Hospice Home.

ALBION NEW ERA

FEBRUARY 5 2003

Phillip E. Cole

Phillip E. Cole, 61, died Saturday, February 1, 2003, at Parkview Memorial Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Born in Wolf Lake, IN, he was the former owner of Western H.R.S. Employment Service. He was involved with LANFLMI and Summit City Chorus and was a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy A. of Fort Wayne; two sons, Rodney J. of Wabash and Randy R. of Indianapolis; one grandchild; two sisters, LaDonna Wiltshire of Fort Wayne and Betsy J. Stohlman of Albion; two brothers, Bill of Houston, TX and Ross J. of Rio Verde, AZ.

Services were 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 5, 2003, at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Fort Wayne. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

Memorials are to Trinity Presbyterian Church or Leukemia Foundation.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 2003

6

Ray Friskney

KENDALLVILLE — Ray L. Friskney, 98, died at 3:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

After high school he graduated from General Motors Institute. He was a mechanical engineer. He was part-owner of Spayd Ohio Mfg., in Van Wert, Ohio, and owner of Federal Seal & Gear in Kendallville from 1941 to 1968, Hudson Trucking and Hudson Warehouse, both in Kendallville, and Friskney Gear & Machine in Corunna. He was a member of Free Will Baptist Church in Waterloo and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

Mr. Friskney

He was born in Albion June 9, 1904, to John Arthur and Berniece (Smith) Friskney.

He married Myrtle Davis July 3, 1933. She died May 19, 1986. He later married Minnie A. (Crager) Allen. She survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Janet and Dwight Keck of Fort Wayne; three stepsons and their spouses, Bill and Debra Allen, Rex and Donna Allen and Rick and D. Allen, all of Kendallville; three grandchildren, Eugene, David and John Keck; and eight stepgrandchildren, Tracy Faust, Scott Allen, Travis Ehret, Brian Allen, Julie Noble, Jennifer Allen, Elisha Allen and Krista Allen; five great-grandchildren; six step-great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Doris Coffelt of Kendallville and Mary Baldwin of Michigan.

He was preceded in death by one sister, Elsie Kaiser; and four brothers, Glen, Ralph, Carroll and Robert Friskney.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Free Will Baptist Church in Waterloo, with the Revs. Ron Stambaugh of Free Will Baptist Church and Lee Combs of Community Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in Merriam Christian Cemetery in Merriam.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville

Memorials are to Free Will Baptist Church.

Theda Young

ANGOLA — Theda Marilyn Young, 83, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She had retired from Rainbow Beauty and Gifts in Angola and the IN Fashions in Butler. She was a member of Steuben County Business and Professional Women.

She was born July 18, 1919, in Hudson, to Heber and Maybelle (Ziebelle) Leas. Two husbands, Allan Fowler and Clayton "Sparky" Young, preceded her in death in 1968 and 1999, respectively. A brother, Lynn Leas, died in 1925.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Lynn and Karen Stockwell of Hudson and Allan and Linda Fowler of Belle Mead, N.J.; a daughter, Alison Taylor of Corydon, Ind.; three stepdaughters, Roxanne McCavit of Allen, Mich., and Cindy Garcia and Lori Wigent, both of Reading, Mich.; a stepson, Barry Young of North Adams, Mich.; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; 13 stepgrandchildren; and one stepgreat-grandchild.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson, with the Rev. Wayne C. Berkesch officiating. Calling will be Friday from 4-8 p.m.

Burial will be in Circle Cemetery, Hudson. Memorials are to the cemetery in care of Johnson Funeral Home, P.O. Box 95, Hudson, IN 46747. Condolences can be e-mailed to the family at johnson@kuntrynet.com.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 6 2003

Melvin Geiger

CHURUBUSCO — Melvin D. Geiger, 64, died at 5:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, at his home. He had been in declining health for 18 months.

He lived north of Churubusco and graduated from Churubusco High School in 1956. He was employed in the construction industry for 45 years. He retired in 2002 as superintendent of Fox Contractors in Fort Wayne after eight years. He attended Brookside Community Church in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Gieger

He was born in Smith Township May 28, 1938, to Emanuel and Mabel M. (Cotton) Geiger.

He married Nancy Slaughter Dec. 20, 1959, in Farmland. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, Timothy A. and Maria Geiger of Fort Wayne, Thomas M. and Juli Geiger and Michael W. and Cami Geiger, all of Churubusco; his daughter and son-in-law, Rebecca and Fred Hass of Churubusco; his father, Emanuel Geiger of Churubusco; four brothers and sisters-in-law, Gene L. and Evelyn Geiger and Paul Lee and Marlene Geiger, all of Churubusco, Junior L. and Jennifer Geiger of Huntington and DeLynn and Debb Geiger of Warsaw; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Bonnie and Glen Nicodemus and Darlene and Dale Delanoy, all of Churubusco; and 11 grandchildren.

Services will be Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Churubusco United Methodist Church, with Pastors Marvin Troyer and Samuel Norris officiating. Burial will be in Riverview Cemetery south of Churubusco.

Calling will be today from 6 to 8 p.m. and Friday from 2 to 8 p.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to WBCL Radio, the ALS Association or Parkview Home Health and Hospice, Columbia City.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Linton Norris

LAGRANGE — Linton G. Norris, 87, formerly of LaGrange, died at 7 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, at Florida Hospital in Sebring, Fla.

He was a retired farmer and driver for Shoup Bus Co. He was a member of the Indiana Farm Bureau and a 50-year member of LaGrange Lodge 144 K of P.

He was born in LaGrange April 27, 1915, to Jacob Earl and Elta Mae (Mehl) Norris.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Waneta and Richard Foltz of Shipshewana; a brother and sister-in-law, Milburn and Lois Norris of LaGrange and Frostproof, Fla.; and a sister, Nedra Wolfe of Leonidas, Mich.; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Gary Klinger officiating. Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to The Gideons.

Carl Scott

ANGOLA — Carl E. Scott, 73, Angola, died Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2003, at home. He had lived in Angola for 22 years, coming from LaGrange.

Mr. Scott was born May 20, 1929, in Arcola, to Samuel and Nellie (Woefla) Scott. He married Norma Wilsey in Angola on Aug. 8, 1980. She survives.

He was a farmer, and also worked for the Indiana Highway Department, Tokheim, Scott's Foods and Bledsoe's.

Surviving are three sons, Steven Scott of Burr Oak, Mich., Randall Scott of LaGrange and Carl Scott II of Wolcottville; two stepsons, Michael Lanning Sr. and Todd Schworm, both of Angola; two daughters, Susan Hedl of Mishawaka and Barbara Ann Parsons of Kendallville; four brothers, Dale, Ernest and Robert Scott, all of Fort Wayne, and Arthur Scott of Wolcottville; three sisters, Mary Harding of Reading, Mich., Louise Bridges of Angola and Ruth Reed of Fort Wayne; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Friday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with the Rev. Brian Carsten officiating. Calling is from 6 to 8 p.m. today.

Burial will be in Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola.

Memorials are to the family, care of Norma Scott.

This obituary is being reprinted to include additional information.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 6 2003

Tom Watson

MONGO — Tom H. Watson, 61, died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, at home after a battle with cancer.

He lived in Noble and LaGrange counties since his discharge from the military in 1963. He worked at many factories in the area and served in law enforcement. He was deputy sheriff of Noble County, Rome City town marshal, and was Justice of the Peace of Orange Township, Noble County.

He was born in Poplar Bluff, Mo., April 20, 1941, to Charles and Mearl Watson.

He married Sally J. Jordan April 1, 1961, in Wolcottville. She survives.

Also surviving are four daughters, Eva Woodworth of Wolcottville, Sherri Miller of Kendallville, Patricia Watson of Mongo and Barbara Watson of Topeka; three sons, Robert C. Watson of Mongo, Tom H. Watson Jr. of Indianapolis and Burt A. Watson of Mongo; his mother, Mearl Watson of Muskegon, Mich.; three sisters, Nellie Blankenship of Poplar Bluff, Mary Best of Eminence, Mo., and Marie Emrick of Muskegon; three brothers, Earl of Owensville, Mo., and Bill and James Watson, both of St. Louis; and 14 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles; a brother, Calvin; and a sister, Jackie.

Services will be Saturday at 2:30 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville, with the Rev. Charles Mullen of St. Gaspar Catholic Church officiating. Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Calling will be Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Martha Atkison

LAGRANGE — Martha E. Atkison, 88, died Sunday, Feb. 2, 2003, at 4:22 a.m. in LaGrange Community Hospital.

She was a retired secretary at Parkside Elementary School.

A lifetime resident of LaGrange, she was a member of Mount Zion Lutheran Church, the church's Ruth Circle and the Bloomfield Township Home Economics Club.

She was born in LaGrange County on Sept. 28, 1914, to N. Verne and Loesa (Omstead) Slater.

She married Charles D. Atkison on Dec. 24, 1935, in LaGrange. He died Dec. 12, 1988.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Charles and Sue Atkison of Garrett and LeeRoy and Linda Atkinson of Norfolk, Va.; one sister, LaVerne Wells of LaGrange; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Stephen Flynn officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling is today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Mount Zion Lutheran Church, LaGrange.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct the date of the service.

Berna Peterman

LAGRANGE — Berna M. Peterman, 95, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

She was a homemaker and schoolteacher. She moved to LaGrange from Indianapolis in 1956. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church and the Mu Chapter of Tri Kappa, both of LaGrange.

She was born in Iroquois, Ill., Aug. 4, 1907, to Daniel W. and Laura (Padgett) Markley.

She married Kenneth G. Peterman June 20, 1926, in Lima, Ohio. He died March 4, 1979.

Surviving are a daughter, Marcia Perdriau of Hudson, Ohio; and one son and daughter-in-law, Mark L. and Myrna Peterman of LaGrange; six grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a brother, Wence Markley; and one grandson, Michael Peterman, who died in December 1980.

Memorial services will be Saturday, Feb. 15, at 3 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Brian VanOsdol officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be two hours before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 6 2003

This obituary is being rerun to clarify information.

Jerry Kjendalen

ASHLEY — Jerry Kjendalen, 91, died Sunday, Feb. 2, 2003, at Indiana Veterans Home in West Lafayette.

He was a retired accountant and worked for Smith Enterprises in Angola for 15 years. He was a World War II U.S. Army veteran.

He was born Aug. 12, 1911, in Iola, Wis., to Henry and Alma (Matson) Kjendalen. His wife, Hilda, preceded him in death in 1989.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, James and Barbara Kjendalen of Hudson and Ronald Kjendalen of Natchez, Miss.; two sisters, Ruth Beck of Portland, Ore., and Helen Johnson of Dickson, Ill.; four grandchildren, Dr. Lance Kjendalen, Eric Kjendalen, Darrell Bartel and Pam Engle; and five great-grandchildren, Brianna, Nick, Zack, Holly and Tiffany.

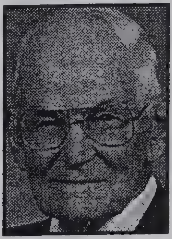
Memorial services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Ashley-Hudson Manor, 830 W. State St., Ashley, with calling one hour before services. The Rev. Craig Burkholder will officiate. Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 7 2003

Dean Gorsuch

CHURUBUSCO — Dean W. Gorsuch, 89, died at 10:15 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003, at Parkview Whitley Hospital in Columbia City.

He lived in the Cromwell area as a child, and later in Green Center and Churubusco. He worked in the dairy industry for 40 years, including at Central Dairy and retired from Allen Dairy in Fort Wayne after 16 years. He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Churubusco.


Mr. Gorsuch

He was born in near Cromwell March 31, 1913, to Thomas and Jesse (Iden) Gorsuch.

He married Iva Gordon Aug. 2, 1934. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Roger and Sharon Gorsuch of Fort Wayne and Donald and Mariann Gorsuch of Austin, Texas; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two sisters and six brothers.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with his pastor, the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs, officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 6 p.m. and one hour before services.

Memorials are to Churubusco United Methodist Church or to Whitley County EMS Medic 21, Churubusco.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Martha Bower

CHURUBUSCO — Martha Lois Bower, 88, died at 3:07 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn.

Mrs. Bower

She was a homemaker. She was a member of Good News Baptist Church.

She was born in Whitley County Oct. 8, 1914, to Lawrence E. and Ada Mae (Dorsey) Jackson.

She married Charles N. Bower May 15, 1930. He died in 1997.

Surviving are two daughters and one son-in-law, Nancy and Jerry Parish of Churubusco and Janet Gross of San Bernardino, Calif.; three sons and one daughter-in-law, Richard and Theresa Bower of Osceola, Bruce Bower of Reno, Nev., and Walter Bower of Churubusco; one brother, Jesse R. Jackson of Fort Wayne; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Besides her husband, she was preceded in death by one brother and three sisters.

Services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home of Churubusco, with Pastor Harold Graham officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

Calling is today from 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

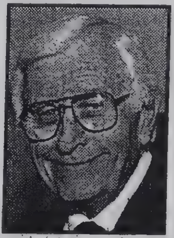
Harold Gibson

PLEASANT LAKE — Harold F. "Hal" Gibson, 78, Pleasant Lake, died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Mr. Gibson was born Jan. 18, 1925, in Flint, Mich., to Frank and Charlotte (Knoelk) Gibson. He married LaVonne "Bonnie" Imhoff on April 3, 1949. She survives, residing at Lakeland Nursing Center in Angola.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving in World War II.

He worked in administration at Lincoln National Life Insurance, retiring in 1986 after 22 years of service. He was a member of the Pleasant Lake Lions for 40 years, and was a 1949 graduate of Tri-State College.


Mr. Gibson

Surviving are a son, Bruce Gibson of Wake Forest, N.C.; and two daughters, Glenda Wilson of Hudson and Gina Gibson of Auburn.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Betty Shilling, and a brother, James Gibson.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with the Revs. Susan Beckett and Emmett Goetschius officiating. Calling is two hours before services.

Burial will be in Pleasant Lake Cemetery.

Memorials are to the charity or organization of the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 7 2003

Donald Maley

FORT WAYNE — Donald J. Maley, 37, died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, at home.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his parents, James and Susan Maley and Diane and Jose Vallejo, all of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Leighann Maley of Fostoria, Ohio, and Emily Maley of Wolf Lake; two sons, William Maley of Fostoria and Dakota Brower of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Kelli Moore of Phoenix and Anne Marie Hosford of Fort Wayne; and three brothers, Jason, Andrew and Joe, all of Fort Wayne.

Services will be Saturday at 3 p.m. at C.M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home. Burial will be in Concordia Cemetery Gardens.

Calling will be two hours before services at the funeral home.

Edwin Blech

KENDALLVILLE — Edwin A. Blech died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, in Lutheran Hospital. Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

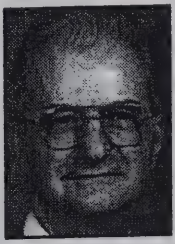
THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 2003

8

Edwin Blech

KENDALLVILLE — Edwin A. Blech, 82, died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.


Mr. Blech

Mr. Blech was a machine operator for Burtzner Brothers & Wilhelm Gravel Co. near LaOtto for more than 20 years before retiring in 1983. He also served in the U.S. Army during World War II from 1941-1945.

Mr. Blech was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and Eagles Lodge, both in Kendallville, as well as the American Legion and David Parrish Post 296, both in Fort Wayne. He attended Aboite Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne. He lived in Fort Wayne 11 years.

He was born on Jan. 17, 1921, near DeKalb County to Frank and Elma (Parr) Blech.

He married Jean Rosemary Hill on Oct. 7, 1945, in Kendallville. She died Feb. 7, 1983.

Surviving are his companion, Lucy Crayton of Fort Wayne; two daughters and a son-in-law, Diane and Robert Shuty of Lower Burrell, Pa., and Cindy Duncan, address unknown; a granddaughter and her husband, Barbara and Mark Baker of Lower Burrell; a grandson, Adam Shuty of Lower Burrell; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Harold and Dorothy Blech and Paul and Margaret Blech, all of Kendallville; a sister-in-law, Beverly Blech of Waterloo; and three great-grandchildren, Jerry, Jennifer and Courtney Wilson, all of Pennsylvania.

A brother, Robert Blech, proceeded him in death in 2001.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville with the Rev. Robert Shriner officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Calling is Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Elizabeth Weiss

STURGIS, Mich. — Elizabeth Z. Weiss, 99, died Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003, at about 8 p.m. at Maple Lawn Medical Facility in Coldwater, Mich.

Mrs. Weiss was a teacher in St. Joseph County for 11 years before working at Howe Military School from 1942 to 1964 as assistant to the quartermaster.

Mrs. Weiss was a member of St. James Episcopal Church in Howe.

She was born Nov. 6, 1903, to James and Christianna (Kline) Grimes.

She married Earl C. Weiss on June 20, 1929, and he preceded her in death.

Surviving are a son, James D. Weiss Sr. of Sturgis, Mich., and Howe; a grandson, James D. Weiss Jr. of Sturgis; and a granddaughter, Christianna E. Cowels of New York City.

Cremation has taken place, and there will be a memorial service in the spring with interment to be in Riverside Cemetery in Howe at a time to be announced later.

The family requests no flowers, and memorials are to Howe Military School Merritt/Dallas scholarship fund in care of Jean Miller, P.O. Box 240, Howe, 46746. Envelopes are available at Carney-Frost Funeral Home, Howe.

William Harris

LAGRANGE — William U. Harris, 92, died Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

Mr. Harris was a retired administrative assistant in the engineering department of the State Highway Department in Fort Wayne, as well as former owner of Harris Refrigeration of LaGrange. He served two terms as the LaGrange County clerk from 1961 to 1968.

Mr. Harris

Mr. Harris, who lived most of his life in LaGrange, was a member of First United Methodist Church in LaGrange and Meridian Sun Lodge 76 F&AM. He was a former member of the LaGrange Rotary Club and was the LaGrange County Republican chairman for five years.

He was born Nov. 1, 1910, in Chicago to Henry Clay and Wilma N. (Urie) Glass Harris.

He married Earlene Pickell on Oct. 15, 1935, in Peru, Ind., and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons, William E. Harris and David W. Harris, both of Fort Wayne; a sister, Jayne McCarty of Woodstock, Ontario, Canada; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Raymond Harris.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-Map Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Dexter Garman officiating. A Masonic service will be held at the funeral home Sunday at 5 p.m. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling is Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to First United Methodist Church, LaGrange.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 8 2003

Erle Faulkner

LAOTTO — Erle Duane Faulkner, 71, died Friday, Feb. 7, 2003, at 4:25 a.m. at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne after being ill for six years, the last six months seriously.

Mr. Faulkner

For 22 1/2 years, Mr. Faulkner served as a technical sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, where he traveled extensively and served in the Korean and Vietnam wars. He also was employed at MacDonald Machinery in Fort Wayne for 24 years before retiring.

Mr. Faulkner was born March 31, 1931, in Huntington, and had lived in LaOtto since 1969.

He married Melba L. Mallo on Dec. 21, 1955, in Roanoke, and she survives.

Also surviving are three sons, Randy Faulkner of Columbia City, Ricky Faulkner of LaOtto and Russell Faulkner of Atlanta, Ga.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Rhonda and Jeffrey Collins of Waterloo and Robin and Damon Lewis of Avilla; four grandchildren, Amanda Collins, Emily Collins, Catie Lewis and Nicole Collins; and a brother, Paul Faulkner of Columbia City.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Marlene Carrouthers, and three brothers, Larry, John and Eldon Faulkner.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, Kendallville, with Pastor Judith Follis of Hope Lutheran Church in Coesse officiating. Burial will be in Highland Park Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Calling is Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Helena Cline

AUBURN — Helena E. Cline, 89, died Friday, Feb. 7, 2003, at Betz Nursing Home.

Mrs. Cline was a corporate officer and worked in the family business, Dilgard, Cline & Southern Funeral Home, for more than 40 years.

She graduated from the Lutheran School of Nursing in 1934 and was a member of PEO.

She was born Dec. 21, 1913, in Woodburn to Edwin and Amanda (McKinley) Keller.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Lloyd M. Cline of Auburn; a daughter and son-in-law, Mary and David Southern of Auburn; a son, Fred Cline of California; three grandchildren, Sylvia Baum of Fort Wayne, Katherine Southern of Madison, Wis., and David "Hill" Southern of Auburn; two great-grandchildren, Elizabeth and Daniel Baum of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Maxine Johnson and Dorothy Sylwester, both of California; and a brother, Steven Keller of Lake George.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Edwin and Albert, and a sister, Margarete Bremer.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday in Trinity Lutheran Church of Auburn.

Calling is Sunday from 3-5 p.m., at the McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home, 502 N. Main St., Auburn.

Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery of Auburn.

Memorials are to Trinity Lutheran Church or a charity of the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 2003
9

Gibson was dedicated to civic service

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

PLEASANT LAKE — For more than half his life, Harold "Hal" Gibson was proud to call himself a Pleasant Lake Lion.

Mr. Gibson, 78, Pleasant Lake, died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was born Jan. 18, 1925, in Flint, Mich., to Frank and Charlotte (Knoelk) Gibson. He married LaVonne "Bonnie" Imhoff on April 3, 1949.

He worked in administration at Lincoln National Life Insurance, retiring in 1986 after 22 years of service. He was a member of the Pleasant Lake Lions Club for 40 years, and was a 1949 graduate of Tri-State College.

"I'd known Hal for about all 40 years he was a Lion," said Dick Dodge, who is also a member of the service organization. "He was a nice guy, a fun guy. We played golf and went on trips together. We served on some committees for the Lions together."

Dodge said Mr. Gibson liked to serve on committees that were dedicated to the betterment of Pleasant Lake.

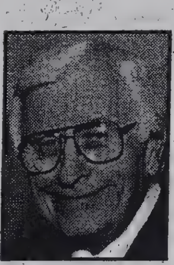
"Civic improvement was a committee he really liked," Dodge said.

That sentiment was echoed by Mr. Gibson's children.

"I know he was very active and very involved in the downtown Pleasant Lake cleanup (with the Lions)," said Mr. Gibson's daughter, Glenda Wilson of Hudson. "That was one of his latest projects. He used to be real involved when the Lions kept up the beach, too."

Mr. Gibson was a veteran of the Navy Air Corps, and he served in World War II.

"He was a radio man and flew in a PB4Y-2," Wilson said. "That's a four-engine bomber."


Mr. Gibson

While he was flying in that four-engine bomber, Mr. Gibson's plane was shot down over the Pacific Ocean. All but one of the airmen on board were rescued.

"When he did talk about the service, he never really talked about the bad stuff," Wilson said. "He talked about the camaraderie and the places he got to see. I never heard the story about him being shot down until I was an adult."

Mr. Gibson's son Bruce of Wake Forest, N.C., said he has many fond memories of his father, who he called "a pretty good sports fan."

"I went to the University of Notre Dame, and he loved that," Gibson said. "He followed the sports there as closely as I did."

Mr. Gibson also followed sports closer to home.

"He coached my little league team," Gibson said. "We won a county championship."

Angola physician Tom Miller was Mr. Gibson's doctor.

"I thought he was very intelligent, good-hearted and well-spoken," Miller said. "He loved his wife and children. His family was a very high priority."

Mr. Gibson had been in failing health for some time. He had a kidney removed as treatment for cancer last fall, and in November, he and his wife moved into Lakeland Nursing Center in Angola.

"His death was really unexpected, though," Wilson said. "After the kidney was removed, the tests showed no spreading of the cancer. It's just that after that kind of trauma, the body starts to sort of systematically shut down."

Wilson said her father had many fine attributes.

"He was a funny, very social, creative and inventive man," she said. "He was a great father and a great husband."

Bonnie Gibson survives, and still lives in Lakeland. She has had several mini-strokes, Wilson said. Although she can't speak very well and she is not ambulatory, Wilson said her mother's mind is "sharp as a tack."

Mr. Gibson is also survived by another daughter, Gina Gibson of Auburn.

Services for Mr. Gibson will be at 2 p.m. today at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with the Revs. Susan Beckett and Emmett Goetschius officiating. Calling is two hours before services.

Burial will be in Pleasant Lake Cemetery.

"Hal will be very, very missed," said Dodge.

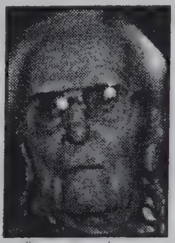
THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUAR 9 2003

Hard work, humor gave 110-year-old his long, full life

BY KELLY BERGMAN
kbergman@kpcnews.net

AUBURN — Lloyd Myers was a serious man. He was serious about his work, raising a family and God.

Mr. Myers worked from the time he was a kid until the age of 80 in DeKalb County, and no one ever had a bad thing to say about him, according to his daughter, Mary Rank of Auburn.


Mr. Myers

Her father was the most honest man she ever knew and he always paid his way, Rank said. For the last 10 of his 110 years he was in a nursing home and refused to change his financial standing to lower the cost of his room and board.

He was always dressed nicely and a gentleman, his daughter said.

There was another side to this hard-working gentleman.

"He had such a sense of humor," she said with a smile on her face.

One year for Christmas he gave one of his nephews a present in a big box. The nephew opened box after box — each tucked inside the other. When he got down to a final box, he found a pocket knife wrapped in wire.

"He did so many things like that," Mary said.

That same sense of humor carried on throughout his life.

Even in the nursing home he was feisty, she said.

"He used to act like he was sleeping in bed," she said. "The when a nurse would get up close he would open his eyes and go 'boo!'"

Mary and her daughter, Jama Cassidy of New Albany, said Myers was always a lucky man.

Among his winnings was a 1955 Pontiac he claimed in a raffle at the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair.

"He was always winning," Jama said.

Another of Myers' passions was for playing games.

"He had always liked cards," Mary said.

Myers played euchre with the 76ers Euchre Group and was hardly ever without a deck of cards, Mary said.

The three things Myers always took with him, wherever he went, were a deck of cards, a pool stick and a pillow from his great-grandchildren.

Mary and her family could not explain her father's longevity. At least three more of her relatives have lived to be over 100 years old, she said.

"He said he wanted to live to be 102, the same age his favorite uncle was when he died," she said.

Myers, who was a farmer, owned and operated a dairy for 11 years but never drank milk.

"None of us ever liked the taste of milk," Mary said. "He just loved ice cream, though ... the nursing home could never have enough."

Mary also remembered that her father had rarely gone to the doctor and only went to the dentist when he really needed it. Myers had his only surgery at the age of 105 to place a pin in his hip.

Besides a couple of car accidents near the age of 100, the only other accident he had been in was when fell off a combine and suffered amnesia for a short time.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 9 2003

Sister A.J. of Avilla remembered for work ethic

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

AVILLA — "She was a hard-working nun," said Kay Pauley, of Sister Alma Joseph Herber, "Sister A.J."

"I've seen her on her hands and knees scrubbing a floor, and in the early days, the sisters would bring out the candles and crucifix and pray over the dead, but one time, a patient woke up and asked Sister A.J., 'Am I dying?'" Pauley related.

"Sister would yell at me, with her hand on her rosary, and sometimes she made me cry, but once, when I was worried about clothes on the line at home, Sister said, 'Just hurry home and get the clothes off the line and get back here!" Pauley said.

Alma Joseph Herber, who died Jan. 31, was one of 12 children in a devoted Catholic family. Two brothers, three nephews and several cousins, including Sister Theresa at St. Mary's School and Sister Marilyn in Belize, Central America, are all in the ministry.

She took her vows at age 18. Nephew Father Alvin Herber saved one of her letters for 55 years. It revealed her sense of humor and concern for others.

Sister Herber

When she came to Sacred Heart Home in 1964 at the age of 53, Herber already had 30 years' experience.

Pauley said, "Sister didn't smile much, but she was good with the young people who came to work." Pauley mentioned several successful men and women in the area who cut their teeth on Sister Herber's work ethic, including one who followed Sister's example and went into nursing. In 1970, Herber left for assignments elsewhere.

When she returned in 1997, the facility was called Provena Sacred Heart Home, she was 87 years old and she was a resident. Pauley, co-worker turned caretaker, teased her, "You used to be my boss, but now I'm your boss!" Sister looked at her as if to say, "We'll see about that!"

Sister Corde Miranda said Sister A.J. loved to sing. "Her favorite song was 'Heart of Jesus, Hear.' It had a high soprano part, but Sister Alma Joseph always sang the alto," said Miranda. "She knew all the songs by heart, and she liked all kinds of music, including 'Old Black Joe.'"

Miranda said Sister Herber was a Franciscan Sister of the Sacred Heart for 73 years. She died Jan. 31 at the age of 91, among the Sisters and residents she loved.

Bonnie Knapp

HICKSVILLE, Ohio — Bonnie Lou Knapp, 62, died Saturday, Feb. 8, 2003, at her home in Hicksville.

She worked at Hickory Creek of Hicksville as a nurse's aide for 14 years.

She was born Sept. 21, 1940, to Alfred and Francis Buchtel.

Surviving are four sons and daughters-in-law, Mike and Mary Jo Myers of Hicksville, Jim and Brenda Myers of Lorena, Texas, Mark and Julie Myers of Fort Wayne and Tony and Maria Gray of Edgerton, Ohio; a daughter, Billi Jo Robinson of Auburn; 10 grandchildren; a great-grandchild; a brother, Max Buchtel, and a sister, Peggy Follin, both of Florida; and a special friend, Jimmie Swallows of Hicksville.

There will be no services or calling. Brown Funeral Home in Hicksville is in charge of arrangements.

Max Savoie

ALBION — Max L. Savoie, 75, of Albion, died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003, at Health Center Hospital in Winter Garden, Fla.

He was a self-employed television repair man and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of American Legion Post No. 246 in Albion, serving as past commander, and Resurrection Catholic Church in Winter Garden, Fla.

He was born June 29, 1927, in Albion, to Harry and Rachel (Coates) Savoie.

Surviving are a brother, Kenneth Savoie of Orlando, Fla.; two sisters, Dorothy Kay of Kokomo and Betty Bloom of Lapel; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion, with Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Calling will be Wednesday at 4-8 p.m.

Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery in Albion, with military rites by American Legion Post No. 246 of Albion.

Betty Dickey

ELKHART — Betty J. Dickey, 75, of Constantine, Mich., died Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003, at Valley View Health Care Center in Elkhart.

She had retired from Sturges Newport in 1985.

She was born Feb. 28, 1927, in Quincy, Mich., to James and Myrtle (Carpenter) Thrasher.

Surviving are a son, James Dickey of Constantine; three grandchildren, Amy Dickey of Elkhart, Mind (Dickey) Medford of Middlebury and J.D. Dickey of Tucson, Ariz.; and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe, with calling from 10-11 a.m. Burial will be in Brighton Chapel Cemetery.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 9 2003

Mary Grady

KENDALLVILLE — Mary Nancy Grady, 80, died Saturday, Feb. 8, 2003, at Kendallville Manor HealthCare Center.

She was a homemaker, beautician and also a realtor with Grady Realty in Kendallville. She was a 50-year member of Noble Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, serving as worthy matron twice; the Daughters of the Nile, Fort Wayne; the Lady Elks, Kendallville; and the Lady Eagles. She also established the Bargain Shop at the Banner Building with Nancy and Laura DeVoe through the First Christian Church. She lived in Kendallville for 68 years.

Mrs. Grady

She was born July 30, 1922, in Indianapolis, to Edwin Ralph and Ola (Stonecypher) Whelan. On July 4, 1941, in Garrett, she married Edward A. Grady Sr., and he survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Sandra and Gary Sutton of League City, Texas and Patricia and Richard Wiehe of Indianapolis; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Ed Jr. and Dawn Grady of Kendallville and Paul Grady of Sylvan Lake; 11 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

A sister, Alma Carper, and a brother, Thomas Whelan, preceded her in death.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Stan Kessler of First Presbyterian Church officiating. Calling will be Monday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m., with a service by the Eastern Star at 7:45 p.m.

Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville. Memorials are to the Parkinson's Disease Association or the First Presbyterian Church in Kendallville.

Berniece Stone

GARRETT — Berniece H. Stone, 90, died Friday, Feb. 7, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor.

She retired from Flint & Walling in 1973 after 18 years of service. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star in Tucson, Ariz.

She was born July 7, 1912, in Fort Wayne, to Thomas Cloyd and Alice Victoria (Aman) Woodruff.

Surviving are a son, Michael Rodman of Kendallville; four daughters, Joann Kovets and Bette Campbell, both of LaOtto, Karen Wirick of Cosperville and Sharon Svoboda of Avilla; 12 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

A brother, Wayne Woodruff, preceded her in death.

Graveside services will be Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville, with Father Thom Lombardi officiating.

Thomas Funeral Home in Garrett is in charge of arrangements. Condolences to condolencethomas@skynet.net.

Elva Garlets

COLUMBIA CITY — Elva M. Garlets, 96, formerly of Churubusco, died Friday, Feb. 7, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Columbia City, where she had lived two years.

She worked at International Harvester in Fort Wayne from 1943-1959 and also was a homemaker. She enjoyed crocheting, traveling and spending time at her cabin near Baldwin, Mich.

She was born April 5, 1906, in a log cabin in Paulding County, Ohio, to Perry Joshua and Jessie Ann (Halsey) Ellis. On Oct. 24, 1922, she married Harold H. Timmerman, and he preceded her in death in 1954. She married her second husband, Peter Garlets, on April 20, 1959, and he died in 1974. A daughter, Lavon Irene Bernardin, died July 27, 1958, and another daughter, Helen June Hefley, died Nov. 28, 2001. A sister, Mary Ellen Fry, is also deceased.

Surviving are a son and daughter in law, Don E. and Sally Timmerman of rural Churubusco; a daughter, Glenna N. Oakes of rural LaOtto; 10 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

Private family services will be Monday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Larry Smith of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church officiating. There will be no calling.

Burial will be in Harlan Cemetery, Harlan. Condolences can be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 9 2003

Frances Lewis

LAGRANGE — Frances V. Lewis, 83, died Friday, Feb. 7, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor.

She was a homemaker and lived her entire life in LaGrange County.

She was born Aug. 4, 1919, in LaGrange County, to Martin and Ola Mae (Hart) Danielson.

Surviving are four daughters, Ruth Hoopingarner of L'Anse, Mich., Martha Knepp of Wolcottville, Linda Brown of LaGrange and Vickey Hicks of Syracuse; a son, Michael W. Lewis of Goshen; two sisters, Luella Oakley of LaGrange and Virginia Everetts of Athens, Mich.; 19 grandchildren; and 28 great-grandchildren.

Two sisters, Flora Pfleiger and Thelma Siuits, preceded her in death.

Services will be Tuesday at noon at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield officiating. Calling will be Tuesday from 10 a.m.-noon.

Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery in LaGrange. Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Zachery Evans

ANGOLA — Zachery Steven Evans was stillborn Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in Angola.

Surviving are his parents, Steven R. and Teresa Ann (Hartman) Evans; his grandparents, Robert and Joan Evans, Hicksville, Ohio, and Sandra Hartman and Charles Hartman, both of St. Joseph, Ill.; and his great-grandparents, Robert and Margaret Van Cleave of Tuscola, Ill.

Graveside services will be Tuesday at 1 p.m. at Six Corners Cemetery in Hicksville, Ohio, with the Rev. Ken Wellman of the Hicksville First Church of Christ officiating.

Brown Funeral Home in Hicksville is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 2003
10

Thomas Western

COLUMBIA CITY — Thomas William Western, 82, died at 4:25 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, 2003, at his home.

He graduated from Larwill High School and attended the University of Illinois and Purdue University. He was a lifelong dairy and grain farmer in Etna Troy Township, Whitley County. He was a dairy herd improvement milk tester for Kane County, Ill., and a school bus driver for Etna Troy School for seven years. Other offices he held include the board of directors for Farm Bureau Co-op, president and secretary of Whitley County Farm Bureau, delegate to the national Farm Bureau convention, president of the Artificial Breeders Association, delegate to American Milk Producers Inc., secretary-treasurer of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and Neighborhood Extension Organization where he was named Outstanding Neighborhood Dairyman in 1964, delegate to People to People tour of Europe and the Soviet Union and a lifelong supporter of Whitley County 4-H programs.

Mr. Western

He was a member of the Whitley County Republican Party, Etna Troy precinct committeeman, on the holding committee for Etna Troy School addition and renovation, original planning commission for Whitley County between 1965 to 1973, Whitley County Council from 1981 to 1984, Whitley County commissioner from 1984 to 1988 and the building committee for the Whitley County Jail.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army Medical Corps 21st General Hospital from 1941 until his honorable discharge Oct. 26, 1945.

He was born in Noble County Feb. 12, 1920, to Wallace and Laura (Piper) Western.

He married Edna Matteson Nov. 18, 1945, in Sycamore, Ill. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Thomas E. and Sue Western of Columbia City; three daughters and sons-in-law, Jeannine and Mel Nix of Columbia City, Janelle and Doug Burnworth of Kimmell and Jody and Kary Klopfenstein of Columbia City; 13 grandchildren, Doug Western, Mindy Hoskins, David Western, Ryan Nix, Carla Mossburg, Kevin Nix, Chad Gebert, Laura Hoskins, Michelle Gebert, Kiel Klopfenstein, Kendal Klopfenstein, Chad Burnworth and Ryan Burnworth; eight great-grandchildren; a brother, Glen Western of Columbia City; and three sisters, Lola Zumbrun of Larwill, Lois Jean Rohrbach of Columbia City and Sharon Hesting of Roanoke.

Preceding him in death were a grandson, Andrew James Nix; and a brother, Paul Western.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Smith & Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City. Burial will be in Adams Cemetery, north of Columbia City.

Calling will be Tuesday from 1:30 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Whitley County 4-H Dairy Club.

Nelda Shafer

GARRETT — Nelda N. Shafer, 78, died Saturday, Feb. 8, 2003, at 9:15 p.m. in Betz Nursing Home of Auburn.

Mrs. Shafer had lived in Garrett for 51 years. She worked as a bartender at the Garrett Eagles for 15 years. She was a member of the Garrett Elks, Garrett Eagles Auxiliary, Garrett American Legion Auxiliary and St. Joseph Catholic Church.

She was born Aug. 21, 1924, in St. Joe to George and Wilma (Magers) Kees.

She married Maurice E. Shafer on Feb. 15, 1945, in Garrett. He died April 29, 2002.

Surviving are two sons, Dave Shafer of Fort Wayne and Bob Shafer of Garrett; two daughters, Linda Nance of Auburn and Mary Shafer of Garrett; a brother, Sam Kees of Hamilton; two sisters, Betty DeLucenay of Garrett and Bonnie Crabill of Auburn; seven grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Willard, Harry and Roger Kees, and a sister, Georgia Kees.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday in St. Joseph Catholic Church. Father Thom Lombardi will officiate. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery.

Calling is Wednesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, and Thursday from 10:30-11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the American Lung Association.

Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 10 2003

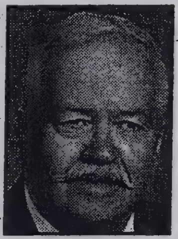
Roy King

GARRETT — Roy L. King, 69, died Saturday, Feb. 8, 2003, at 3:48 p.m. in Parkview Hospital at Fort Wayne.

Mr. King had lived in Garrett for 47 years. He was one of the original owners of X-Y Tool & Die in LaOtto. He attended Lakewood Park Baptist Church in rural Auburn and was a member of American Legion Post 240 in Avilla.

He was born April 28, 1933, in Smoot, W.Va., to Lawrence and Irene (Rose) King.

Surviving are his wife of 49 years, Marie; two daughters and sons-in-law, Sharon and Kevin Fralick of Fort Wayne and Sheila and Denny Payton of Auburn; a son, Richard King of Garrett; a granddaughter, Lyndsay Payton of Auburn; two grandsons, Brandon Payton of Auburn and Dusty Engleman of Fort Wayne; two stepgrandchildren, Clinton and Justin Fralick of St. Joe; a great-granddaughter, Gracie Payton of Auburn; two brothers, Herbert King of Glen Daniel, W.Va., and Charles King of Three Rivers, Mich.; a sister, Pearl Schmader of Lady Lake, Fla.; and several nieces and nephews.



Mr. King

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Velma Burdette and Geneva Phipps.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in Lakewood Park Baptist Church, 5555 C.R. 29, Auburn. Pastor Clare Jewell will officiate. Burial will be in Cedar Creek Cemetery of rural Garrett with military graveside services by American Legion Post 240.

Shari Fulk

GARRETT — Shari J. Fulk, 39, died Saturday, Feb. 8, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She worked at SCP in Auburn for 13 years.

She was born Aug. 9, 1963, in Garrett to Gene and Janet Yarian. They survive in Garrett.

Also surviving are a soul mate, Jack Gooslin; two sons, Tyler Jon Fulk and Joshua Robert Fulk, both of Garrett; one daughter, Amy Marie Yarian of Fort Wayne; one brother, David Yarian of Garrett; three sisters, Michelle Roose of Edgerton, Ohio, and Lisa Bredice and Tracie Yarian, both of Fort Wayne; and two grandchildren, Maranda Rachelle Yarian and Alivia Denae Stahlhut.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. The Rev. William Haworth will officiate. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

Calling is Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Calling is Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, and Wednesday from 9-10 a.m. at the church.

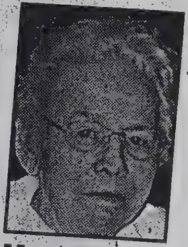
Memorials are to the American Diabetes Association and the American Heart Association.

Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Gertrude Kinerk

AVILLA — Gertrude M. Kinerk, 84, died at 8:40 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, 2003. She had been in failing health for five years.

She was a homemaker and member of Immanuel Lutheran Church and the Avilla Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. She lived in New Haven before moving to Avilla in 1956.



Mrs. Kinerk

She was born in Fort Wayne Oct. 13, 1918, to Fred and Elizabeth (Knoepher) Nahrwold.

She married Merle Kinerk Nov. 16, 1939, in Franklin County. He died in November 1969.

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, Steve and Sue Kinerk of Wolcottville; three daughters and sons-in-law, Donna and Don Gienger of Kendallville, and Patricia and James Fortman and Judy and Guy Hillegass, all of Avilla; 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and a brother, Robert Nahrwold of Fort Wayne.

Preceding her in death were a sister, Dorothy Nahrwold; a brother, Ted Nahrwold; and one great-grandchild.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Avilla, with Pastor Dean Bearman officiating. Burial will be in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the Chancel Society of Immanuel Lutheran Church.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 10 2003

The following obituary is being reprinted to clarify information provided by the funeral home.

Nancy Grady

KENDALLVILLE — Mary Nancy Grady, 80, died Saturday, Feb. 8, 2003, at Kendallville Manor HealthCare Center.

She was a homemaker, beautician and also a Realtor with Grady Realty in Kendallville. She was a 50-year member of Noble Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, serving as worthy matron twice; the Daughters of the Nile, Fort Wayne; the Lady Elks, Kendallville; and the Lady Eagles. She also established the Bargain Shop at the Banner Building with Laura DeVoe through the First Christian Church. She lived in Kendallville for 68 years.

Mrs. Grady

She was born July 30, 1922, in Indianapolis, to Edwin Ralph and Ola (Stonecypher) Whelan. On July 4, 1941, in Garrett, she married Edward A. Grady Sr., and he survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Sandra and Gary Sutton of League City, Texas and Patricia and Richard Wiehe of Indianapolis; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Ed Jr. and Dawn Grady of Kendallville and Paul Grady of Sylvan Lake; 11 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

A sister, Alma Carper, and a brother, Thomas Whelan, preceded her in death.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Stan Kessler of First Presbyterian Church officiating. Calling will be today from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m., with a service by the Eastern Star at 7:45 p.m.

Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville. Memorials are to the Parkinson's Disease Association or the First Presbyterian Church in Kendallville.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 2003

11

Isabell LeCount

LIGONIER — Isabell (Sprague) LeCount, 82, died at 11:35 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, 2003, at her home after an extended illness.

She was a member of American Legion Auxiliary 243 of Ligonier.

She was born in Ligonier Oct. 20, 1920.

She married Herbert William LeCount Dec. 1, 1938. He preceded her in death.

Surviving are three daughters and sons-in-law, Nancy and David Etheridge of Decatur, Miss., Katherine and George Wright of Mishawaka, and Pattie and Pete Green of Cromwell; and two sons and one daughter-in-law, Larry LeCount of Ligonier and Rick and Teresa LeCount of New Paris; 10 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandson; two sisters, Betty Chiddister of Ligonier and Janis Rarick of Cromwell; and three brothers, Frederick and Glen Sprague, both of Ligonier, and Phillip Sprague of Auburn.

Preceding her in death were two sisters, Mary Marker and Faye Lahr; and seven brothers, Donald, Morris, James, Duane, Lewis, Adrian and Frank Jr.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at Orr Funeral Home of Ligonier, with the Rev. John Randolph of People's Bible Church of Benton officiating.

Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Charles Jernagan

KENDALLVILLE — Charles L. Jernagan died Monday, Feb. 10, 2003, at Hickory Creek Nursing Home. Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Timothy Sutton

STURGIS, Mich. — Timothy D. Sutton, 40, a lifelong Sturgis resident, died Friday, Feb. 7, 2003, at his home.

He was a welder and had been employed by Grumman Olson in Sturgis for 13 years. He last worked with ARCH Inc. in Sturgis. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and the Sons of the American Legion in LaGrange. He was a 1981 graduate of Sturgis High School. He enjoyed fishing and working with the ARCH clients.

He was born in Sturgis Jan. 19, 1963, to Larry and Donna (Penick) Sutton, who survive in Sturgis.

Also surviving are a son, David Dale Sutton of LaGrange; a brother, Eric Sutton of Sturgis, maternal grandmother Maxine Penick of LaGrange; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents John and Nola Sutton, and maternal grandfather Donald Penick Sr.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial graveside service will be held at Oak Lawn Cemetery in Sturgis at a later date.

Memorials may be made to a fund for David Dale Sutton at Trinity Lutheran School.

Hackman-Foglesong Funeral Home of Sturgis is in charge of arrangements.

Jessie Johnson

FORT WAYNE — Jessie Dice Johnson, 98, formerly of Union Township in Whitley County and Eel River Township in Allen County, died at 11:15 p.m. Monday, Feb. 10, 2003, at Kingston Care Center in Fort Wayne. She had been a resident there for four years.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Howard C. Dice, in 1962 and by her second husband, James Johnson, in 1993.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Leora Longnecker

CHURUBUSCO — Leora Longnecker, 96, died at 2:20 a.m. today, Feb. 11, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Columbia City.

Her husband, Noah S. Longnecker, died Feb. 5, 1958.

Survivors include her daughter, Lois Johnson of Columbia City.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 11 2003

Helen Waters

ALBION — Helen J. Waters, 66, died Monday, Feb. 10, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She worked at Utrad in Huntington and Walker Restaurant in Wolf Lake.

Surviving are her husband, Earl L.; four daughters, Cindy Lou Hartman of Fort Wayne, Carol Sue Warkentin of Huntington, Diana Warren of High Lake and Randi Barrick of Bluffton; three sisters, Anna Mitch, Esther Crotty and Emma Harris, all of Huntington; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Marcella Waters.

Memorial services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at Big Lake Church of God in Columbia City. Burial will be at a later date.

There is no calling.

DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@demoney-grimes.com.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Edwin Blech** were held Monday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Robert Shriner officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Harold Blech, Paul Blech, Rex Blech, Mark Baker, Eric Duncan and Ed Duncan.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Erle D. Faulkner** were held Monday at 10 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. Judith Follis officiating. Burial was in Highland Park Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

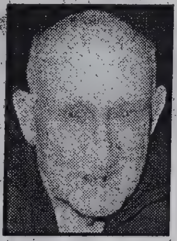
Pallbearers were Randy Faulkner, Ricky Faulkner, Russell Faulkner, Jeff Collins, Damon Lewis and Ryan Emenhiser.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 12 2003

Charles Jernagan

KENDALLVILLE — Charles L. Jernagan, 83, died Monday, Feb. 10, 2003, at Hickory Creek Nursing Home.


Mr. Jernagan

He retired in 1978 from General Motors in Defiance, Ohio, after 30 years. He was a member of the United Auto Workers Local 211. He was a former member of Zion Lutheran Church in Defiance, and a current member of Community Baptist Church in Wolcottville.

He was born in Rossville, Ill., Nov. 10, 1919, to Amos and Mildred (Bradshaw) Jernagan.

He married Ogie Neely Aug. 10, 1973, in Edgerton, Ohio. She survives.

Also surviving are five daughters and three sons-in-law, Madelyn Danielles of Dickinson, Texas, Sara and David Wagner of Fenwick, Mich., Robin and Michael Lanle of Syracuse, Dorothy and Jack Hatfield of Greenville, Mich., and Susan Wilburn of Crystal, Mich.; two sons and daughters-in-law, James and Dalene Jernagan of Moore, Okla., and Jason and Teresa Jernagan of Fenwick; seven granddaughters, Rachel Huddle of Crystal, Emily Kent of Fenwick, Kristy Jernagan of Fenwick, Jeanne Gilmore of Oklahoma City, Okla., Alisa Wilburn of Crystal, Verna Horak of Crystal, and Hannah Lanle of Syracuse; 11 grandsons, Brian Neeley of Iona, Mich., Nicholas Neeley of Fenwick, David Wagner of Fenwick, James Jernagan of Moore, Okla., John Jernagan of Moore, Jeffrey Jernagan of Moore, Kevin Chaffins of Greenville, Mich., Larry Chaffins of California, Robert Jernagan of Pomeroy, Ohio, Chuck Jernagan of Pomeroy, and Richard Wilburn of Crystal; 10 great-grandchildren; a brother, Amos Jernagan of Crawfordsville, and one sister-in-law, Stella Eley of Kendallville.

He was preceded in death by one son, Charles Jernagan; and one grandson, Timothy Jernagan.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Lee Combs officiating. Burial will be at the East Monroe Cemetery in Continental, Ohio.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family or to the Alzheimer's Foundation.

Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Nancy Grady** were held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. Stan Kessler of First Presbyterian Church officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Ed Grady Jr., Paul Grady, Hugh Sutton, Riley Sutton, Aaron Wiehe and Chad Grady.

Ople Pletcher

LIGONIER — Ople M. Pletcher, 88, died at 11:20 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home in Kendallville.

She retired from Excel in Elkhart after 25 years of service. She was a member of American Legion Auxiliary 240 in Avilla, and Women of the Moose in Elkhart. She enjoyed fishing, camping and doing crossword puzzles.

She was born in Kendallville May 13, 1914, to Virgil and Eva (Smith) Smith.

She married Bernard Pletcher Dec. 31, 1966, in Elkhart. He died in 1978.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Marilyn and Gil Baumgartner of Fort Wayne and Janet and Phil Meyer of Venice, Fla.; one son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Barbara Hippenhammer of Avilla; one brother, Howard Smith of Elkhart; two stepsisters, Mary Beth Null and Barbara Divitro; one daughter-in-law, Dennille Hippenhammer of Ligonier; 18 grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two sons.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Albion. Burial will be at 1 p.m. at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Osceola, with her grandsons serving as pallbearers.

Calling will be Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Albion.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 12 2003

Trent Zuehsow

LAOTTO — Trent A. Zuehsow, 19, died at 8:38 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8, 2003, as the result of an auto accident on S.R. 63 south of U.S. 36 in Hillsdale, Ind., near Terre Haute.

Mr. Zuehsow

He was a freshman at the University of Evansville, studying mechanical engineering. He was a member of the university's Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He was a 2002 graduate of East Noble High School, where he was a four-year East Noble honor thespian and appeared in every theater performance during his high school career. He was a three-year member of East Noble Theatre's "Raise A Ruckus" show at the Apple Festival. He was a lifelong LaOtto resident.

He was born in Fort Wayne Jan. 2, 1984, to Paul and Suzanne M. (Ebersole) Zuehsow.

Surviving with his parents are one brother, Dalen Zuehsow of LaOtto; two sisters, Lynette Nandi and Kim A. Zuehsow, both of Arlington, Va., and a grandmother, Laura Zuehsow of Garrett.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Avilla, with the Rev. Dean Bearman officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the East Noble Theatre Department, the East Noble Show Choir or Bethany Christian Services.

Thomas Funeral Home in Garrett is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Robert Tennant

LAGRANGE — Robert L. Tennant, 66, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2003, at his home.

He retired from the manufactured homes industry. He was a lifetime resident of LaGrange County. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving during the Korean War. He was a member of LaGrange American Legion Post 215.

He was born in LaGrange County Sept. 17, 1936, to Donald D. and Dora (Yoder) Tennant.

He married Mary M. King April 1, 1988, in LaGrange County. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Lisa Ann Donbrosky of Dundee, Mich.; and two sons, Robert Lee Tennant Jr. of Florida and Stephan Rockwell of Woodford, Va.; four grandchildren; one sister, Shirley Randsom of Scott, Ind.; and two brothers, James Tennant of Scott and Don Tennant of Texas.

There will be no services or calling.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Frurip-May Funeral Home of LaGrange is in charge of arrangements.

Leora Longenecker

CHURUBUSCO — Leora Longenecker, 96, died at 2:20 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Columbia City, where she had lived for six months.

She was a devoted mother and grandmother and enjoyed visiting with neighbors, crocheting and baking.

She moved with her family from Greencastle and spent her formative years in Allen and Noble counties.

She was born near Greencastle June 24, 1906, to Cyrus Samuel and Mary (Hall) McCarty.

She married Noah S. Longenecker March 31, 1926, in Fort Wayne. He died Feb. 5, 1958.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Lois and Virgil Johnston of Columbia City; four grandchildren and their spouses, Kathy and Brent DeWitt, and Kelly and Tom Landis, all of Churubusco, Linda and John Pruss of Dillsboro and Kevin and Lou Ann Johnston of West Lafayette; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Mabel Schwartzengraber.

Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Tim Kumfer of Big Lake Church of God officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery south of Churubusco.

Calling will be one hour before services at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 12 2003

Jessie Johnson

Mrs. Johnson

FORT WAYNE — Jessie Ott Dice Johnson, 98, formerly of Union Township in Whitley County and Eel River Township in Allen County, died at 11:15 p.m. Monday, Feb. 10, 2003, at Kingston Care Center in Fort Wayne. She had been a resident there for four years.

She was a member of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church east of Churubusco, and attended First Church of God in Columbia City. She was also a member of Churubusco Order of Eastern Star 136.

She was born in Noble Township Dec. 8, 1904, to Lawrence and Pearl (Fisher) Ott.

She married Howard C. Dice Aug. 16, 1925, and lived in Eel River Township. He died Jan. 15, 1962. She married James Johnson Oct. 15, 1963, moving to Union Township. He died July 12, 1993.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Darlene and Max Smith of Churubusco, and Martha and Don Doster of Fort Wayne; three sons and daughters-in-law, Keith M. and Joyce Dice and Eldon and Barbara Dice, all of Fort Wayne, and Paul N. and Georgejean Dice of Huntertown; two stepdaughters, Donna Andrews of Chandler, Ariz., and Janice Killworth and her husband, Kenneth, of Columbia City; two stepsons and their wives, Robert W. and Pat Johnson and Duane P. and Sandy Johnson, all of Columbia City; a brother and sister-in-law, Glen and Phyllis Ott of Churubusco; 16 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was also preceded in death by an infant son; four brothers; and two grandchildren.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Larry Smith of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church or the donor's choice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Ralph Smith

FORT WAYNE — Ralph E. Smith, 74, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Jan. 27, 2003, in Palmetto, Fla.

He was a veteran of the Korean War and a member of Local 414 Teamsters.

Surviving are his companion, Milie Snyder; three sons, Phillip E. Smith of Fort Wayne, Michael G. Smith of Longmont, Colo., and Mark S. Smith of Kendallville; a daughter, Christy A. Weaver of Fort Wayne; two stepsons, Thomas R. Spencer of Fort Wayne and Brian T. Johnson of Claremont, Calif.; two stepdaughters, Jamie L. Hein of Everett, Wash., and Sarah J. Miller of Fort Wayne; a brother, George Smith of Fort Wayne; 26 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Sarah G., and a daughter, Kelley K. Hart.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church.

There will be no calling.

Memorials are to Messiah Lutheran Genesis.

Ellenton Funeral Home in Ellenton, Fla., is in charge of arrangements.

Eliberto Villarreal

LIGONIER — Eliberto Villarreal, 28, died at 6:35 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 9, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was born in Harlingen, Texas, Dec. 31, 1974, to Jose and Marie (Gomez) Villarreal.

He married Claudia Cunto Villarreal July 1, 1993, in Georgia. She survives.

Also surviving are his parents, Jose and Marie Villarreal of Texas; two daughters, Abigail Lynne and Amber Monique Villarreal, both of Ligonier; and one son, Eliberto G. Villarreal of Ligonier; four brothers; 10 sisters; and several nieces and nephews.

There are no services.

Calling will be Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier. Burial will be at a later date in Brownsville, Texas.

Robert Lemon

KENDALLVILLE — Robert E. "Bobby" Lemon, 46, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2003, at Hickory Creek Nursing Home.

He was born Feb. 1, 1957, to Sara E. (Lemon) Gilli, who preceded him in death in 1996.

Surviving are four aunts, Elizabeth "Betty" Lemon of Wawaka, Barbara Lehman of Wawaka, Dorothy Zoller of Dayton, Ohio, and Mary Kerr of Vandalia, Ohio.

Graveside services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at Rose Hill Cemetery in Albion.

There is no calling.

Hite Funeral Home of Kendallville is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

ALBION NEW ERA

FEBRUARY 12 2003

Thomas Western

COLUMBIA CITY – Thomas William Western, 82, died at 4:25 p.m. Sunday, February 9, 2003, at his home.

He graduated from Larwill High School and attended the University of Illinois and Purdue University. He was a lifelong dairy and grain farmer in Etna Troy Township, Whitley County. He was a dairy herd improvement milk tester for Kane County, Ill., and a school bus driver for Etna Troy School for seven years. Other offices he held include the board of directors for Farm Bureau Co-op, president and secretary of Whitley County Farm Bureau, delegate to the national Farm Bureau convention, president of the Artificial Breeders Association, delegate to American Milk Producers Inc., secretary-treasurer of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and Neighborhood Extension Organization where he was named outstanding Neighborhood Dairyman in 1964, delegate to People to People tour of Europe and the Soviet Union and lifelong supporter of Whitley County 4-H programs.

He was a member of the Whitley County Republican Party, Etna Troy precinct committeeman, on the holding committee for Etna Troy School addition and renovation, original planning Commission for Whitley County between 1965 to 1973, Whitley County Council from 1981 to 1984, Whitley County Commissioner from 1984 to 1988 and the building committee for the Whitley County Jail.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army Medical Corps 21st General Hospital from 1941 until his honorable discharge October 26, 1945.

He was born in Noble County February 12, 1920, to Wallace and Laura (Piper) Western.

He married Edna Matteson November 18, 1945, in Sycamore, Ill. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Thomas E. and Sue Western of Columbia City; three daughters and sons-in-law, Jeannine and Mel Nix of Columbia City, Janelle and Doug Burnworth of Kimmell and Jody and Kary Klopfenstein of Columbia City; 13 grandchildren, Doug Western, Mindy Hoskins, David Western, Ryan Nix, Carl Mossburg, Kevin Nix, Chad Gebert, Laura Hoskins, Michelle Gebert, Kiel Klopfenstein, Kendal Klopfenstein, Chad Burnworth and Ryan Burnworth; eight great-grandchildren; a brother, Glen Western of Columbia City; and three sisters, Lola Zumbrun of Larwill, Lois Jean Rohrback of Columbia City; and Sharon Hesting of Roanoke.

Preceding him in death were a grandson, Andrew James Nix; and a brother, Paul Western.

Services were Wednesday at Smith & Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City. Burial was in

Donald Maley

FORT WAYNE – Donald J. Maley, 37,died Wednesday, February 5, 2003, at home.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his parents, James and Susan Maley and Diane and Jose Vallejo, all of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Leighann Maley of Fostoria, Ohio, and Emily Maley of Wolf Lake; two sons, William Maley of Fostoria and Dakota Brower of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Kelli Moore of Phoenix and Anne Marie Hosford of Fort Wayne; three brothers, Jason, Andrew and Joe, all of Fort Wayne.

Services were held Saturday, February 8, 2003, at C.M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home. Burial was in Concordia Cemetery Gardens.

ALBION NEW ERA

FEBRUARY 12 2003

Isabell Sprague LeCount

LIGONIER – Isabell (Sprague) LeCount, 82, died Sunday, February 9, 2003, at her home after an extended illness.

She was a member of American Legion Auxiliary 243 of Ligonier.

She was born in Ligonier Oct. 20, 1920.

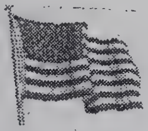
She married Herbert William LeCount Dec. 1, 1938. He preceded her in death.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Nancy Etheridge of Decatur, Miss., Katherine and George Wright of Mishawaka, Pattie and Pete Green of Cromwell, ; two sons and one daughter-in-law, Larry LeCount of Ligonier, and Rick and Teresa LeCount of New Paris; 10 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and onegreat-great-grandson; two sisters, Betty Chiddister of Ligonier and Janis Rarick of Cromwell; three brothers, Frederick Sprague and Glen Sprague, both of Ligonier, and Phillip Sprague of Auburn.

Preceeding her in death were two sisters, Mary Marker and Faye Lahr; and seven brothers, Donald, Morris, James, Duane, Lewis, Adrian and Frank Jr.

Services will be Thursday at 10:00 a.m., February 13, 2003, at Orr Funeral Home, Ligonier, with the Rev. John Randolph of People's Bible Church of Benton officiating. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetary.

Calling will be Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.



Max Savoie

ALBION – Max L. Savoie, 75, of Albion, died Wednesday, February 5, 2003, at Health Center Hospital in Winter Garden, FL.

He was a self-employed television repair man and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of American Legion Post No. 246 in Albion, serving as past commander, and Resurrection Catholic Church in Winter Garden, FL.

He was born June 29, 1927, in Albion, to Harry and Rachel (Coates) Savoie.

Surviving are a brother, Kenneth Savoie of Orlando, FL; two sisters, Dorothy Kay of Kokomo and Betty Bloom of Lapel; and several nieces and nephews.

Service will be held Thursday, February 13, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion, with Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Calling will be Wednesday from 4-8 p.m.

Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery in Albion, with military rites by American Legion Post No. 246 of Albion.

Helen J. Waters

Helen J. Waters, 66, died Monday, February 10, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

She worked at Utrad, Huntington and at the Walker Restaurant, Wolf Lake.

Surviving are her husband, Earl L.; four daughters, Cindy Lou Hartman of Fort Wayne, Carol Sue Warkentin of Huntington, Diana Warren of High Lake, and Randi Barrick of Bluffton; three sisters, Anna Mitch, Esther Crotty and Emma Harris, all of Huntington; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Marcella Waters.

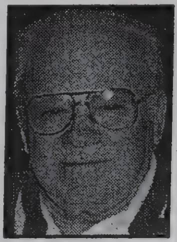
Memorial service will be 2:00 p.m. Thursday at Big Lake Church of God, Columbia City. No calling. Arrangements by DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral home, Columbia City. Burial at a later date. You may send condolences to sympathy@demoney-grimes.com.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 13 2003

Norman Reeves

KENDALLVILLE — Norman F. Reeves, 78, died at 12:15 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home.


Mr. Reeves

He was a farmer and a boiler operator at McCray Refrigeration. He lived on Harding Street since 1960 and moved to the nursing home in 2001. He loved bowling.

He was born in Garrett Nov. 9, 1924, to Frank and Elsie (Bach) Reeves.

He married Florence Overholser June 8, 1945, in Kendallville. She died July 17, 2002.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Carol and Berry LaBov of Fort Wayne; a son and daughter-in-law, Dennis and Chela Reeves of Kendallville; five grandchildren, Nicholas, Krystal and Eric Reeves, and Laura and Alan LaBov; one stepgrandchild, Alex Reeves; and one brother, Larry Reeves of Kendallville.

Two sisters, Violet Bixler and Eleanor Reeves, preceded him in death.

Services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Mark Clough of The Chapel in Fort Wayne officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. and one hour before services.

Memorials are to Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville.

William Huff

ALBION — William E. Huff, 84, died at 7:05 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Among his survivors are one son, Larry Huff; and two grandchildren.

Services are pending at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion.

Alan Edwards

HICKSVILLE, Ohio — Alan W. Edwards, 32, died Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2003, in DeKalb County as a result of an auto accident.

He worked at Dexter Axel in Albion for the past seven years.

Surviving are a daughter, Leah Edwards of Hicksville; a son, Reece Edwards of Hicksville; a brother, Scott Edwards of Hicksville; his parents, Randy and Lora Edwards of Hicksville; and grandparents, Wilmer and Barbara Rohrs of Hicksville, and Violet Edwards of Van Wert.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church, Hicksville. Burial will be in Forest Home Cemetery, Hicksville.

Calling will be today after 2 p.m. at Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville.

Memorials are to the Leah and Reece Trust Fund at Hicksville Bank.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 14 2003

Philip Kennedy

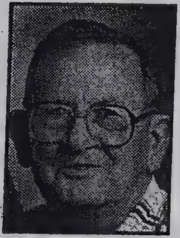
WOLCOTTVILLE — Philip L. Kennedy, 77, died Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003, at Millers Merry Manor in LaGrange.

He was a retired truck driver. He moved from Muncie to Wolcottville in 1969.

He was born in Morrison, Tenn., Oct. 3, 1925, to William A. and Maggie Belle (Smith) Kennedy.

He married Mary Jane Miller Oct. 25, 1947, in Wichita, Kan. She survives.

Also surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Debbi and Terry Levitz of Vanceburg, Ky.; four sons and one daughter-in-law, Dana and Patricia Kennedy, Richard Kennedy and Stan Kennedy, all of Wolcottville, and Tom Kennedy of Clayton, N.C.; 17 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and three sisters, Imogene Brooks of Muncie, Mozelle Toth of Salt Lake City and Hazel Wilson of Clearwater, Fla.



Mr. Kennedy

Preceding him in death were a daughter, Patricia A. Rheinheimer, who died Feb. 17, 2002; two brothers; and three sisters.

Services will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Millers Merry Manor Memorial Fund.

Richard Faux

ELKHART — Richard W. "Dick" Faux, 74, died at 11:37 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital.

He had retired in 1985 as vice president of sales for EFP Corp. in Elkhart, where he had been employed for 35 years. For 10 years he was the postmaster at YWAM Base in Kona, Hawaii.

He was a member and honorary elder at the Church of the Living Word in Elkhart. He was past president of Full Gospel Businessmen's International. He enjoyed doing missionary work, was an avid Chicago Cubs fan, and liked to play golf. He attended Indiana University in Bloomington. He was a veteran of the Army, serving during World War II.

He was born in Kendallville May 15, 1928, to Paul E. and Grace A. (Trowbridge) Faux.

He married Betty E. Treesh June 27, 1948, in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, JoEllen and William Smith of Goshen; four sons and two daughters-in-law, James and Elaine Faux of Pendleton, Jon and Lori Faux of Elkhart, Jerry Faux of Jones, Mich., and Jeffrey Faux of Elkhart; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a sister, Judith Dawson of Angola.

One sister, Shirley Gaunt, preceded him in death.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Walley-Mills-Zimmerman Funeral Home & Crematory, with the Revs. Don Martin and James Hanson officiating. Entombment will be in the Chapel of Peace Mausoleum at Rice Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Ruth Brendel

CHURUBUSCO — Ruth B. Brendel, 89, died at 11:45 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003, at DeKalb Hospital in Auburn. She had been a patient since Monday.

Mrs. Brendel

She had lived in rural Spencerville and graduated from Harlan High School in 1931. She and her husband lived in rural Allen County and ran a strawberry farming operation. She was a bus driver for the Arcola School for several years and was Lake Township assessor. She also lived in Auburn and Harlan. She enjoyed camping, fishing and crafts.

She was born in Harlan April 16, 1913, to Edward and Myrtle (Sproat) Federspiel.

She married Arthur T. Brendel April 5, 1947, in Lake Township, Allen County. He died Aug. 4, 1979.

Surviving are three sisters, Edythe Eager of Harlan, Ellen Dean of Rockford, Ill., and Doris Garber of Fresno, Ohio; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were two brothers, Earl and Bert Federspiel; and two sisters, Marcella Young and Opal Buchanan.

Services will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs of the Churubusco United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at Eel River Cemetery south of Churubusco.

Calling will be Saturday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Woodburn Christian Children's Home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

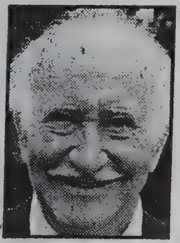
THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 14 2003

Mason Buckner

WOLCOTTVILLE — Mason Buckner, 95, died at 12:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003, at his home.

He was a Methodist minister, choir director and public school music teacher and farmer. He had served several charges and lived in the Big Long Lake area for 60 years. He had attended college at Taylor University in Upland, Manchester College in North Manchester and Butler University in Indianapolis.


Mr. Buckner

He was born at Liberty Center in Wells County Aug. 19, 1907, to Benjamin Franklin and Mary (Gavin) Buckner.

He married Elsa Linnea Olson Sept. 5, 1932, in Bluffton. She died Dec. 5, 1999.

Surviving are three sons, David Buckner of Ligonier, and Lowell Buckner and Steve Gavin Buckner, both of San Francisco; 13 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A daughter, Joyce Abbott, died in 2001. Two brothers and one sister also preceded him in death.

Services will be Monday at 1 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Frank Grepke officiating. Burial will be in South Milford Cemetery.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the funeral home.

Daniel Westphal

ELKHART — Daniel Alan Westphal, 51, died of cancer at 3:35 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003, at the home of his sister Christine Mills.

Despite being physically disabled since birth, he attended Elkhart High School and enjoyed visiting with friends, listening to all kinds of music and watching television game shows.

He was born in Kendallville Aug. 9, 1951, the son of Harold C. and Marg J. (Cline) Westphal.

Surviving are five sisters and two brothers-in-law, Sally and Leon Hicks and Carol Henry, all of Kendallville; Christine Mills of Elkhart; Lenore Baird of LaGrange and Barbara and Jerry Mortimore of Wolcottville; and two nephews with whom he was raised, William and Andrew Mills.

Preceding him in death were his parents, and a brother, Harold "Bud" Westphal.

Graveside services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Fairfield Cemetery near Corunna, with Pastor Steven Reshan of Augustana Lutheran Church in Elkhart officiating.

There will be no calling.

Memorials are to Elkhart Cancer Services.

Rose Skiles

FORT WAYNE — Rose Skiles, 101, died Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2003, at Towne House.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Berne, Switzerland.

Her husband John F. Skiles preceded her in death.

Surviving are a brother-in-law, Ralph Skiles of Avilla; three nieces, Darlene Ellis, Norma Cowles and Pat Ellis, all of Fort Wayne; three nephews, Fred Burki of Chicago, Donald Skiles of Churubusco and Terry Skiles of Avilla; and several great-nieces and great-nephews.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Home Wayne Street Chapel. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be one hour before services.

Memorials are to Trier Ridge Community Church of God.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 15 2003

William Huff

ALBION — William E. Huff, 84, died at 7:05 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a Central Noble School Corp. bus driver for 42 years and was a lifetime farmer. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Albion. He lived his entire life in Noble County.

He was born in Ligonier April 13, 1918, to Ernest and Nellie (Duesler) Huff. They preceded him in death.

He married Alta L. Meroney May 21, 1938 in Ligonier at the EUB parsonage. They were married 57 years. His wife preceded him in death Aug. 25, 1995.

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, Larry and Kathie Huff of Columbia City; one brother, Arlo Huff of Sturgis, Mich.; two sisters, Marceil Bickel of Indianapolis and Viva Meroney of Ligonier; two grandchildren, Danielle Zumbrun of Larwill and Nichelle Pulver of Albion; two stepgrandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Also preceding him in death were a brother, Elton Huff, and a sister, Vitia Isbell.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with the Rev. Dr. Dan Barker officiating.

Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery in Kimmell.

Visitation will be Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial are to the Albion Fire Department.

Donald Thompson

HUDSON — Donald G. Thompson, 65, died Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2003, in Lecanto, Fla.

He was a 1958 graduate of Garrett High School and was in the Marine Corps for three years.

He was retired from International Harvester after 38 years.

He was born in Garrett Oct. 17, 1937, to Robert and Gert (Sucher) Thompson.

He married Deb Hexamer on July 8, 1988.

Surviving are his wife; one son, Robert Thompson of Ashley; two daughters, Diane Collins of Harlan and Chris Coleman of Auburn; one stepson, Dane Trease of Biloxi, Miss.; two stepdaughters, Lisa Trease of Ashley and Ellen Mapes of Hudson; eight grandchildren; and five stepgrandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at a later date at Christian Union Cemetery in Garrett.

Arrangements are by Johnson Funeral Home, Hudson.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Charles Jernagan** were held Thursday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Lee Combs officiating. Burial was at East Monroe Cemetery in Continental, Ohio.

Pallbearers were Mike Lanly, Jack Hatfield, Mike Horak, Brian Neeley, David Wagner and Bobbie Handshoe.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 16 2003

Ray Friskney could brighten anyone's day

BY JUDY MCDONALD

judym@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — "His name should have been 'frisky,' not Friskney," said pastor and friend the Rev. Ron Stambaugh of Waterloo's Free Will Baptist Church.

Ray Friskney died Feb. 4 at the age of 98, but his mind was sharp, said Stambaugh. He read a lot, including his Bible, and continued to take care of his own business and financial affairs.

"That's true," said his daughter Janet Keck. "He enjoyed life. He was not one to sit much. His mind was always 'going,'" she said. "He was interested in what was going on in the business world, and he was always ready to share his knowledge with others," she added.

Mr. Friskney

He was a real "people person," she continued, He enjoyed traveling all over the country in his motor home, visiting with friends and family along the way.

"He could talk to anyone, anywhere, about anything," said his daughter.

He graduated from Wolf Lake High School and worked in the general store his parents owned in Green Center, but as a teenager, struck out on his own. He studied mechanical engineering at the General Motors Institute. Later, he started several businesses in manufacturing, trucking and warehousing. At least one, Friskney Gear & Machine in Corunna, is still in operation under new ownership. Keck noted her father's energy provided jobs for many others and helped some start their own businesses. According to his daughter, he saw failure as a stepping stone to what could be done.

Even physical limitations didn't stop him. Friskney had to undergo dialysis at least a couple of times each week, and regularly battled with infections and other complications, but, in the words of his pastor, "I never heard him complain."

Stambaugh said that when he went to visit Friskney, he always came away inspired. "He didn't know the word 'quit,'" Stambaugh said, "it wasn't even in his vocabulary."

The weather on the day of Friskney's funeral testified to his spirit. Even though it was bitterly cold, "the sun came out nice and bright, and that was just like him," said Stambaugh. "He was like sunshine. You could be having a bad day and he would brighten it for you."

Quoting a text from St. Paul, "'To live is Christ, but to die is gain,'" Stambaugh said Friskney "didn't stop living — his body just wore out."

Family, classic Chevy made man's life enjoyable

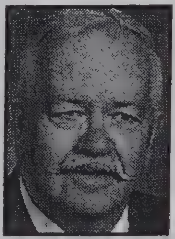
BY BILL GISEL

billg@kpcnews.net

GARRETT — Roy King battled diabetes and heart problems for the last 20 years, but it didn't stop him from doing the things he liked to do the most: enjoying his family, his friends and his collector car.

"The greatest joy Dad had in the last year of his life was his great-granddaughter, Gracie," Sheila Payton of Auburn said of her father. Mr. King died Feb. 8 at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne. He was 69.

In 1963, Mr. King bought a Chevrolet Impala Super Sport with a 409-cubic-inch motor. He traded the car a few years later, "but he always regretted that he sold it," his daughter said. Four or five years ago, after watching cars cross the auction block at Kruse Auction Park in Auburn for a number of years, Mr. King found and bought another car "just like it," Sheila said.



Mr. King

"He really loved and enjoyed that car," she said.

A native of West Virginia, Mr. King lived in Indiana 47 years. He came to Garrett in 1967 and helped start X-Y Tool and Die in LaOtto with partners Leonard Buuck, Matt Kretler and Henry Sandkuhler in 1972. He retired from the company 20 years ago.

"He loved to travel, work in his yard and fish for walleye. Every Thursday he had lunch with his buddies in Fort Wayne; every morning he had coffee with them in either LaOtto or Avilla," Sheila said.

An Army veteran of the Korean War period, he was active in the American Legion at Post 240 in Avilla. His fellow veterans honored him with military graveside services at Cedar Creek Cemetery.

Married for 49 years, Mr. King and his wife, Marie, shared a love of travel and visiting restaurants in the area.

Knowing what it meant to have health problems, Mr. King would do anything he could to help sick friends and neighbors, his wife said.

He attended Lakewood Park Church in Auburn.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 16 2003

Clear Lake woman cared about her community

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

CLEAR LAKE — When Pearl McMurray found something she cared about, she would stick with it for a long, long time.

Pearl Geraldine McMurray, 87, died Feb. 13 at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne. Services are today at 1 p.m. at St. Paul Chapel Catholic Church in Clear Lake, with Father Philip Schneider officiating.

Mrs. McMurray was born in Auburn on July 1, 1915, to Joe and Lucy (Farver) Neal. She was married to Wilford McMurray for 47 years. He died on June 28, 1983. Wilford had been the Clear Lake Township trustee since the 1950s, and when he passed away, Pearl took his post. She held it until her death.

Mrs. McMurray

"She was writing checks until two days before she died," said Jeanie Palmerton, who works at Beams Funeral Home in Fremont. Beams is handling arrangements for Mrs. McMurray's services.

As a music teacher, Mrs. McMurray gave the gift of music to area children for 70 years.

"She was a teacher for a lot of the students around here," Palmerton said. "She played (the organ) for the Catholic Church."

Steuben County Commissioner F. Mayo Sanders said he was shocked and saddened to hear of Mrs. McMurray's death.

"She was quite a lady," he said. "She was very, very active. I was very surprised when I found out she had passed away. I'd seen her not too long ago. She was just re-elected to the trustee's position in November."

Bob Troll, president of the Clear Lake town board, said he didn't know Mrs. McMurray well, but that he had heard nothing but good things about her from the people who did.

"I think she was very well-liked," he said. "She and her husband owned their farm on (S.R.) 120 forever. She was still living there. She took over for her husband as trustee. The family was always very involved in Clear Lake."

Troll said people considered McMurray a trustworthy, talented woman.

"She was apparently a musician as well as the trustee, and from what I hear, she was very good at both," he said.

Mrs. McMurray is survived by two children, a son, David, and a daughter, Marilyn Stevenson.

Diane Wisnieski

OAKTON, Va. — Diane Marie Wisnieski, 49, died Monday, Feb. 10, 2003, at Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, Va.

She was born in Garrett. She graduated from Central Noble High School in 1971 and was a graduate of International Business College in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are her husband, Jon, and two children, James and Laura; her parents, Richard and Donna Buchmeier of Kendallville; her grandmother, Ruth Shirk of Avilla, four brothers and numerous other family members.

Services were Thursday at St. Mark's Catholic Church in Vienna, Va.

Memorials are to the American Lung Association or the American Cancer Society.

Money and King Funeral Home of Vienna, Va., was in charge of arrangements.

William Pope

FREMONT — William Dale "Bill" Pope, 67, died Friday, Feb. 14, 2003, at Bonita Springs, Fla.

He was a former resident of Fremont.

Arrangements are pending at Beams Funeral Home of Fremont.

Vernon Lambright

SHIPSHEWANA — Vernon O. Lambright, 78, of rural Shipshewana, died Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003, at 4:45 a.m. in his home. He had been in declining health.

Mr. Lambright was a lifelong resident of LaGrange County, where he was a farmer for most of his life. He later worked at Jayco Inc. in Middlebury, from 1982 until 1994. He was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He was born June 5, 1924, in LaGrange County to Jerry F. and Susie (Miller) Lambright.

On Jan. 25, 1945, in Shipshewana, he married Anna D. Graber. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Ernest and Lorene Lambright and Orvan and Irma Jean Lambright, all of Shipshewana; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Wilma and Roman Hochstetler of Shipshewana and Ida Mae and Melvin Schlabach of LaGrange; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Chris and Anna Mae Lambright and Sam and Anna Lambright, all of Shipshewana, and eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Perry Lambright, and one grandson, Daryle Lambright.

Services will be at 9:30 a.m. Monday at the Perry Bontrager Jr. residence, 2260 N. 1000W, Shipshewana, with the Rev. Lonnie Yoder, the Rev. Levi L. Yoder and the Rev. Freeman Miller officiating. Burial will be in the Naylor Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling is all day today at the family residence.

The Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Valeria Buchanan

COLUMBIA CITY — Valeria V. Buchanan, 81, died Friday, Feb. 14, 2003, at 2:45 p.m. at The Oaks Living Center, where she was admitted Feb. 3.

She was born Aug. 31, 1921, in Appleton, Minn., to Ignatius "Joe" and Edna (Konieczy) Bonk.

She married Donald L. "Buck" Buchanan June 19, 1943. They lived in Montevideo, Minn., before moving to Birmingham, Mich., and later to Fort Wayne.

In 1963 they moved to Columbia City, where Mrs. Buchanan served on the board of review for the Whitley County assessor, was co-owner of the former Buchanan Ford Inc., and secretary/treasurer of Buchanan Automotive.

She was instrumental in the establishment and maintenance of the Butterfly Garden at Merry Lea Environmental Center, planting and maintaining the flower beds at the Whitley County Courthouse and decorating Christmas trees at the courthouse and Parkview Whitley Hospital.

She was a member of the St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church where she served as eucharistic minister and a team member of Christ Renews.

She also was a member of the Tri Lakes Garden Club, Whitley County Art Guild, Coterie and a past member of the Columbia City Tree Board. An avid golfer, she was a member of the Crooked Lake Golf League and the local bowling league. She was well-known for her baking, gardening, floral arranging, and oil and watercolor paintings.

She is survived by her husband; two sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Jean Buchanan and John and Bethann Buchanan, all of Columbia City; three daughters and sons-in-law, Patricia and John Woenker of Angola, Barbara and James Geiger of Columbia City and Deb and Daniel Balyeat of Fort Wayne; 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; a brother, David Bonk of Appleton, Minn.; and seven sisters, Helen Johnson of Ortonville, Minn., Louise Schlueter of Holloway, Minn., Margaret Wederath of New Hope, Minn., Marie Zalusky of Crown Point, Janette Rheingans and Katie Mahoney, both of Appleton, Minn., and Joan Wederath of Fruita, Colo.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a grandson; two brothers, Frank Bonk and Albert Bonk; and two sisters, Dorothy McConnel Cragg and Marian Bonk.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, 315 S. Line St., Columbia City, with Father Dale Bauman as celebrant. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery at Columbia City.

Calling is Monday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Smith and Sons Funeral Home, 207 N. Main St., Columbia City and one hour before the service at the church. A rosary service will begin at 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be directed to the Kyle Balyeat Memorial Athletic Fund.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 16 2003

Paul Kuehn

FORT WAYNE — Paul C. Kuehn Jr., 72, of Fort Wayne and formerly of Kendallville, died Friday, Feb. 14, 2003, at 9 p.m. in Byron Health Care Center.

Mr. Kuehn worked in various automotive sales jobs and as a driver.

He was a disabled veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving in the Marine Corps, and a volunteer at the Veterans Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was born Oct. 31, 1930, in Fraser, Mich., to Paul C. Kuehn Sr. and Dorothy (Rossow) Kuehn.

Surviving are a daughter, M. Lynda Orr of Fort Wayne; a son, Michael P. Kuehn of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Dorothy and Margaret; and a granddaughter, Heidi Orr.

Services will be at 7 p.m. Thursday in C.M. Sloan and Sons Funeral Home, 1327 Wells St., Fort Wayne. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery.

Calling is Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Byron Health Center.

Howard Ricketts

BUTLER — Howard W. Ricketts, 79, of Butler, died Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003, at 6 a.m. in his home.

Mr. Ricketts was a retired farmer and had served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

He was a member of the Hoosier Warbirds and American Legion Post 202.

He was born Nov. 3, 1923, in Newville to Milton Jay and Bertha (Platter) Ricketts.

On May 22, 1949, in Butler he married Violet O. Saylor. She preceded him in death on Aug. 8, 1997.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Frank Strong of Fremont; and a granddaughter, Stephanie Strong, Fort Wayne.

He was preceded in death by a brother, James, and two sisters, Helen Jordan and Lois Ricketts.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at H.E. Johnson and Son Funeral Home, 212 N. Broadway, Butler, with the Rev. Tony Brooks officiating. Burial will be in Riverview Cemetery at Newville.

Calling is Monday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be directed to a charity of the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 17 2003

Ann Stouder

GOSHEN — Ann Nita Francis Stouder, 64, died at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, 2003, at her home. She had been ill for a year.

She was a housekeeping aide at Greencroft. She attended Bethel Missionary Church.

She was born in Aurora, Ill, Oct. 10, 1938, to Alvin C. and Elizabeth M. (Skernolis) Heussner.

She married Thomas Lewis Stouder April 5, 1986, in Goshen. He survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Arlean and Tyler Groff of Batavia, Ill., and Alvina Gay and Jose Serna of Pontiac, Ill.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Edward A. and Shawna Maas of Peoria, Ariz., and Verne K. and Michele Maas of Mottville, Mich.; four sisters and two brothers-in-law, Elizabeth Fenner of Monett, Mo., Claire and Fred Dauer of Honolulu, Hawaii, Karen and Jon Bloch of Carpentersville, Ill.; and Sharon and Arnie Krause of Elgin, Ill.; two brothers, Andrew Heussner of Lisle, Ill., and James Heussner of Glenview, Ill.; one stepdaughter, Robyn Stouder of Middlebury; two stepsons, Kenneth Stouder and Thomas W. Stouder, both of Middlebury; 15 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Chauntelli Maas.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Rieth-Rohrer-Ehret Funeral Home in Goshen, with Pastor Dan Smith of Bethel Missionary Church officiating.

Calling will be today from 6 to 8 p.m. and Tuesday from 9 to 11 a.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Care at Home Hospice or Cancer Services of Elkhart County.

Charles Jacobs

LIGONIER — Charles Jacobs, 60, died at 2:36 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16, 2003, in Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

He was a retired machine operator for Walker Manufacturing and Tenneco of Ligonier. He enjoyed working on old cars and tractors, carpentry and hunting.

He was born in Pippa Passes, Ky., Sept. 19, 1942, to Hillson and Sallie (Jacobs) Jacobs.

He married Virginia Ritchie July 17, 1965, in Rome City. She survives.

Also surviving are one daughter, Shanda Jacobs of Ligonier; one son, Terry Jacobs of Ligonier; two brothers, Dan Jacobs of Ligonier and Manuel Jacobs of Rome City; one sister, Dora Ellen Jacobs of Pippa Passes; four grandchildren, David, Derek, Desiree and Chase; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Lee Combs officiating. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery in Ligonier.

Calling will be Tuesday from 3 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the family.

Carolyn Gerig

WOODBURN — Carolyn R. Gerig, 62, died at 8:53 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She graduated from Wawaka High School in 1958. She graduated from the Lutheran School of Nursing in Fort Wayne in 1961. She was employed at East Allen County Schools as a bus driver for the past 10 years and helped on the family farm. She was a mem- [illegible]twood Fellowship Church, where she taught Sunday school for many years. She was a member of the Spinning Spools Quilt Guild.

She was born in Ligonier May 24, 1940, to Jacob and Elmira (Armstrong) Eberly.

She married Herbert Gerig Aug. 10, 1962, in Wawaka. He survives.

Also surviving are a son, Curtis J. Gerig of Harlan; two daughters, Charlotte J. Brent of Baton Rouge, La., and Cynthia J. Frederick of Woodburn; six grandchildren; four sisters, Joyce Portman of Anchorage, Alaska, Susan McNeeley of LaFontaine, Rebecca Berghoff of Yakima, Wash., and Mary Christy of Oxford, Iowa; four brothers, Jacob Eberly of Holland, Mich., Daniel Eberly of Ligonier, Luther Eberly of Silver Lake and Thomas Eberly of Columbia City.

Preceding her in death were a brother, John Eberly, and a half sister, Bonnie Harmon.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Westwood Fellowship Church in Woodburn, with Pastor Jeff Shadowen officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 1 to 8 p.m. and Wednesday from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the church or to the donor's choice.

Brown Funeral Home in Hicksville, Ohio, is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 17 2003

Janis Groll

AVILLA — Janis Arlene Groll, 70, died at 10:55 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003, at her home.

She was a member of Calvary United Methodist Church in Avilla, where she was a Sunday school teacher and Bible school worker. She was a director of Awana Club, a children's ministry, in Arizona. She worked at the Kendallville Wal-Mart until becoming ill. She has lived in Avilla since 1994, coming from Arizona.

She was born in Noble County Feb. 25, 1932, to Kermit and Lileth (Weaver) Whan. Her father died March 31, 1993. Her mother survives in Avilla.

She married Bernard Shroyer Nov. 2, 1950. He died Feb. 11, 1967, in Arizona. She married James Groll Dec. 30, 1969. He survives in Avilla.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Lana and Steve Ritter of Goffstown, N.H., two sons, Michael Shroyer of Grapevine, Texas, and Dennis Shroyer of Hot Springs, Ark.; one stepson and his wife, James and Rosalind Groll Jr. of Phoenix; one stepdaughter, Joy Terry of Phoenix; four grandchildren and two spouses, Sabrina and Frank Carr, Samantha and Brian Coleman, Benjamin Cohen and Isaac Cohen; one stepgranddaughter, Christy Terry; three great-grandchildren, Victoria, Franklin and Mackenzie Carr; and two brothers and sisters-in-law, Paul and Joyce Whan of Kendallville and Dick and Clara Whan of Avilla.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Calvary United Methodist Church in Avilla, with the Rev. Dr. Leonard King officiating. Burial will be in Hopewell Cemetery in Avilla.

Calling is today from 2 to 5 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla and one hour before services at the church.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Norman F. Reeves** were held Saturday at 1 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Mark Clough officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Dennis Reeves, Dennis Koch, Larry Reeves, Barry LaBov, Nick Reeves and Alex Reeves.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 2003

18

Gerald Zimmerman

LEESBURG, Fla. — Gerald W. Zimmerman, 90, died Sunday, Feb. 16, 2003.

He was originally from north of Brimfield in Noble County and lived with his wife in Malayon, Fla., since 1977. He was a member of the Church of the Nazarene and was employed at Frick Lumber in Brimfield for more than 25 years.

He was born in Wawaka March 12, 1912, to Daniel and Edith (Weaver) Zimmerman.

He married Madeline Hart Aug. 8, 1936, in Kendallville. She survives in Florida.

Also surviving are two sons, Charles D. Zimmerman of Fort Wayne and Philip L. Zimmerman of Hamilton; a daughter, Sandra Kay Kloepper of Berne; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville. Burial will be in Orange Cemetery near Brimfield.

Calling will be Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Mark Krauskopf

ONEKAMA, Mich. — Mark Krauskopf, 35, died Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, in Michigan. Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Elvina Sumalpong

HUDSON — Elvina S. Sumalpong, 66, died Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, in DeKalb County from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Mrs. Sumalpong was born Feb. 13, 1937, in Essex, England, to Leslie and Elsie (Box) Jacobs. She was married to Felimon Sumalpong in 1974, and he preceded her in death on Feb. 9, 1984.

She was a homemaker and a license practical nurse. She was very family-oriented and was a great nanny to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Surviving are a son, Dana Hughes of Murphy, N.C.; four daughters, Donna Victorino and Darlene Shinn, both of Vallejo, Calif., Diana Rowe of Hudson and Dawn Kimoto of Vacaville, Calif.; a brother, James Jacobs of Essex; a stepbrother, David Reid of Toronto, Canada; two sisters, Diana Wade and Yvonne Jacobs, both of Essex; her stepfather, Robert Reid of Essex; 13 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with Pastor Jeffrey Fackler officiating. Calling is from 10 to 11 a.m. Friday.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Mason Buckner** were held Monday at 1 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Frank Grepke officiating. Burial was in South Milford Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Clinton Olson, Eric Olson, Lowell Buckner, John Buckner, Steve Buckner and Steve Gavin Buckner.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 18 2003

Doris See

AUBURN — Doris M. See, 88, died Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, at 2:45 a.m. in Betz Nursing Home.

Mrs. See

Mrs. See was a former employee of the DeKalb County treasurer's office and Messenger Corp., both in Auburn. She lived in DeKalb County and Auburn for most of her life except for a few years at Bear Lake in Noble County.

She graduated from McIntosh High School in Auburn. She belonged to the Indian Village Church of God in Auburn, where she taught Sunday school for many years. She also was a member of the Entre Nous Literary Club of Auburn.

She was born Feb. 23, 1914, in DeKalb County to Leon E. and Gladys H. (Dannells) Barnhart.

She married Orval See on July 7, 1934, in Auburn. He died Feb. 14, 1996.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Jon and Elizabeth See of Garrett; a sister, Ruth Musser of Fort Wayne; three grandchildren, Michael J. See of Toledo, Ohio, Christina M. Meyer of Machesney Park, Ill., and Eric S. See of Boardman, Ohio; and five great-grandchildren, Jordan and Emily See of Toledo, Ohio, Lucas and Zachery Meyer of Machesney Park, Ill., and Cameron See of Boardman, Ohio.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Leon L., David and Keith Barnhart, and one sister, Grace Pommert Pavey.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday in the Indian Village Church of God. The Rev. Lloyd Harlan will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Calling is Wednesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, and Thursday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the Indian Village Church of God.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 19 2003

Mamie Held

GARRETT — Mamie I. Held, 100, died Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2003, at 4:50 a.m. in Miller's Merry Manor nursing home.

Mrs. Held served as a secretary at the Falstaff/Bergoff Brewery in Fort Wayne, retiring in 1970. She lived in Garrett for 90 years and was a member of the Garrett Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Held

She was born March 2, 1902, in Defiance, Ohio, to William E. and Maria (Hetzler) Rahmer.

She married Michael Held on Feb. 13, 1952, in Garrett. He died Sept. 5, 2001.

Surviving are three nephews, Robert Foulk of Wolcottville, Steven Fuller of Leo and Daniel Fuller of Lisle, Ill.; and three nieces, Shirley Fleming of Bloomington, Diane Held of Sterling Heights, Mich., and Marilyn MacLaren of Clinton Township, Mich.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Harry Rahmer, and two sisters, Nellie Foulk and Minnie Fuller.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett. The Rev. William Haworth will officiate. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

Calling will be Friday from 2-4 and 6-7:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Miller's Merry Manor Activity Fund.

Condolences may be sent by e-mail to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Gilva Miller

KIMMELL — Gilva E. Miller, 78, died at 11:30 am. Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2003, at her home of an apparent heart attack.

She was a lifelong resident of Noble County. She had worked at Wirk Garment in Ligonier and as a custodian for West Noble School Corp. She was a member of Kimmell United Methodist Church. She enjoyed ice fishing.

Mrs. Miller

She was born in Kimmell Nov. 19, 1924, to Dora and Edith (Growcock) Fausnaugh.

She married Joseph F. Miller May 3, 1952, in Burkett. He survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, David J. and Kenda Miller of Cromwell; two daughters and one son-in-law, Billie S. Brown of Ligonier and Becky L. and Kim Hausbach of Goshen; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by four brothers and four sisters.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Don Poyser officiating. Burial will be in Sparta Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Mark Krauskopf

KENDALLVILLE — Mark Krauskopf, 35, of Onekama, Mich., and formerly of the Kendallville area, died suddenly Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, in Manistee, Mich.

He was a member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in New Buffalo, Mich., where he lived before moving to Onekama in 1999. He was a registered architect and owner of Studio One Architects in Manistee. He was also a member of the Manistee Sunrise Rotary Club and the American Institute of Architects. He enjoyed bicycling, kayaking, hiking and spending time with his family.

He was born in Fort Wayne May 19, 1967, to Dale and Nancy (Humbarger) Krauskopf.

He married Tamara Hovarter Sept. 14, 1991, in Kendallville. She survives in Onekama.

Also surviving are his father and stepmother, Dale and Lynette Krauskopf of Auburn; his mother, Nancy Krauskopf of Fort Wayne; two sons, Owen Michael Jacob Krauskopf and Alexander Nicholas Krauskopf, both of Onekama; paternal grandmother, Betty Krauskopf of Fort Wayne; maternal grandmother, Berniece Humbarger of Sebring, Fla.; stepgrandparents, Glen and Evelyn Weible of Kendallville; and a brother and sister-in-law, Curtis and Ronda Krauskopf of Orlando, Fla.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Auburn, with the Rev. Lloyd Bickel officiating. Burial will be at Concordia Cemetery in Fort Wayne.

Calling will be Friday from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Memorials are to the Michigan Legacy Art Park in Thompsonville, Mich.

Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 19 2003

Carol Sherry

COLUMBIA CITY — Carol L. Sherry, 55, died Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2003, at her home after a lengthy illness.

Mrs. Sherry

She had lived in Ohio and graduated from Defiance High School. She was employed by Campbell's Soup in Napoleon, Ohio, from 1973 to 1982, Richards restaurant in Columbia City and a certified nursing assistant at The Oaks Living Center for a few years.

She was born in Toledo, Ohio, Aug. 14, 1947, to Theodore Frederick and Virginia Marie (Bear) Kuhn.

She married Richard E. Sherry Oct. 31, 1982. He died Aug. 6, 1992.

Surviving are two sons, James Eppelmann of Pierceton and Tom Eppelmann of Mentone; a daughter, Theresa Fruit of Parker City; three stepsons, James Sherry of Briceton, Ohio, Billy Crosser of Rosealm, Ohio, and Mike Sherry of Nappanee; three stepdaughters, Kim Mansfield and Cindy Coil, both of Payne, Ohio, and Michelle Sherry of Columbia City; several grandchildren; two brothers, William P. Kuhn of Columbia City and Richard L. Kuhn of Korea; four sisters, Paula Craig of Napoleon, Anne Marie Rohrs of Bryan, Ohio, Dianna Brinkman of Continental, Ohio, and Emma Shaffer of Garrett; and a stepbrother, Mike Merz of Continental.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Patricia L. Eppelmann; four grandchildren Christopher, David, Shane and Jamie Eppelmann; a daughter-in-law, Penny Eppelmann; and her stepfather, Paul Budd.

Services will be Friday at noon at Smith and Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with Pastors Sam Westmoreland and Mark Hale officiating. Burial will be in Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or Parkview Home Health & Hospice-Whitley Branch.

Avis Miller

NORTH WEBSTER — Avis M. Miller, 73, died Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, at Avalon Village, Ligonier.

She was a secretary at Eckrich Foods in Fort Wayne.

She was born in Fort Wayne.

Her husband, George, died in 1992.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at North Webster United Methodist Church. Burial will be in North Webster Cemetery, Mock Addition.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel, Syracuse.

Memorials are to the church nursery fund.

The family of Irene McGuire would like to thank all of the many friends, relatives and medical professionals at Parkview Noble Hospital that made her last days and the family's final hours a lasting memory.

A special thank you to Provena Sacred Heart and staff for the wonderful care she received, to Orr Funeral Home and staff for the funeral arrangements and to Pastor Tom Novy for a nice message. Thank you to the ladies auxiliary of the Albion Eagles for a nice dinner following the service. All of the cards, flowers, food and prayers for the family were appreciated.

Max McGuire, Ken and Lois Ward,
Bill McGuire and Rachel Welch
John and Betty Pettit, Elaine Wolfe
Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

Gerald Zimmerman, 90

LEESBURG, Fla. — Gerald W. Zimmerman, 90, died Sunday, February 16, 2003.

He was originally from north of Brimfield in Noble County and lived with his wife in Malayon, Florida, since 1977. He was a member of the Church of the Nazarene and was employed at Frick Lumber in Brimfield for more than 25 years.

He was born in Wawaka March 12, 1912, to Daniel and Edith (Weaver) Zimmerman.

He married Madeline Hart August 8, 1936, in Kendallville. She survives in Florida.

Also surviving are two sons, Charles E. Zimmerman of Fort Wayne and Philip L. Zimmerman of Hamilton; a daughter, Sandra Kay Kloepper of Berne; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville. Burial will be in Orange Cemetery near Brimfield.

Calling will be Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Carolyn Gerig

WOODBURN – Carolyn R. Gerig, 62, died at 8:53 a.m. Saturday, February 15, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She graduated from Wawaka High School in 1958. She graduated from the Lutheran School of Nursing in Fort Wayne in 1961. She was employed at East Allen County Schools as a bus driver for the past 10 years and helped on the family farm. She was a member of Westwood Fellowship Church, where she taught Sunday school for many years. She was a member of the Spinning Spools Quilt Guild.

She married Herbert Gerig August 10, 1962, in Wawaka. He survives.

Also surviving are a son, Curtis J. Gerig of Harlan; two daughters, Charlotte J. Brent of Baton Rouge, LA, and Cynthia J. Frederick of Woodburn; six grandchildren; four sisters, Joyce Portman of Anchorage, Alaska, Susan McNeeley of LaFontaine, Rebecca Berghoff of Yakima, WA, and Mary Christy of Oxford, Iowa; four brothers, Jacob Eberly of Holland, MI, Daniel Eberly of Ligonier, Luther Eberly of Silver Lake, and Thomas Eberly of Columbia City.

Preceding her in death were a brother, John Eberly, and a half sister, Bonnie Harmon.

Services were held Wednesday, February 19, 2003 at Westwood Fellowship Church in Woodburn, with Pastor Jeff Shadowen officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Memorials are to the church or to the donor's choice.

Ople M. Pletcher

LIGONIER – Ople M. Pletcher, age 88, of Ligonier, IN, died Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 11:20 a.m. in Shepherd of the Hills in Kendallville, IN.

She was born on May 13, 1914, in Kendallville to Virgil Smith and Eva Smith Smith.

She married Bernard Pletcher on December 31, 1966 in Elkhart, IN. He preceded her in death in 1978.

She retired from Excel in Elkhart, IN after 25 years of service.

She was a member of American Legion Auxiliary #240 in Avilla, Women of the Moose in Elkhart. She enjoyed fishing, camping and crossword puzzles.

She is survived by two daughters, Marilyn and Gil Baumgartner of Fort Wayne, and Janet and Phil Meyer of Venice, Florida; one son, Richard and Barbara Hippenhammer of Avilla; one brother, Howard Smith of Elkhart; two step-sisters, Mary Beth Null and Barbara Divitro; one daughter-in-law, Dennille Hippenhammer of Ligonier; eighteen grandchildren; a host of great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Bernard Pletcher, and two sons.

Services were Friday, February 14, 2003, at Orr Funeral Home of Albion. Burial with graveside services was at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Osceola, IN. Her grandsons served as pallbearers.

Memorial contributions can be made to the charity of your choice.

ALBION NEW ERA

FEBRUARY 19 2003

William E. Huff

ALBION – William E. Huff, 84, died Wednesday, February 12, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was born in Ligonier April 13, 1918, to Ernest and Nellie (Duesler) Huff. He was a lifelong resident of Noble County, working for the Central Noble School Corp as a bus driver for 42 years and was also a lifetime farmer.

He was married to Alta L. Meroney on May 21, 1938, in Ligonier. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Albion.

Surviving are one son, Larry (Kathie) Huff of Columbia City; two grandchildren, Danielle Zumbrun of Larwill, IN, and Nichelle Pulver of Albion; two step-grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren; one brother, Arlo Huff of Sturgis; two sisters, Marceil Bickel of Indianapolis and Viva Meroney of Ligonier.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Alta; his parents; one brother, Elton Huff; and one sister, Vitia Isbell.

Services were held Monday, February 17, 2003 at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla. Burial was in Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell, IN.

Memorials are to the Albion Fire Department.

Robert Lemon

KENDALLVILLE – Robert E. "Bobby" Lemon, 46, died Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at Hickory Creek Nursing Home.

He was born February 1, 1957, to Sara E. (Lemon) Gilli, who preceded him in death in 1996.

Surviving are four aunts, Elizabeth "Betty" Lemon of Wawaka, Barbara Lehman, of Wawaka, Dorothy Zoller of Dayton, Ohio, and Mary Kerr of Vandalia, Ohio.

Graveside services were Saturday, February 15, 2003, at Rose Hill Cemetery in Albion.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 20 2003

William Rudig

SYRACUSE — William D. "Bill" Rudig, 59, died Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2003, at 6:20 a.m. in Lombard, Ill.

Mr. Rudig moved to Syracuse in 1990. He was a service account manager for Carrier Corp. and a member of Calvary United Methodist Church and the Plumber and Pipefitters Local 166.

He was a member of the Logansport High School Class of 1961 and attended Manchester College from 1961-66. He graduated from Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne, in 1987.

He was born June 2, 1943, in Wabash to Karl and Marjorie (Wilkerson) Rudig. His mother survives in Logansport.

On Aug. 13, 1966, he married Ann Warner. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Steven Rudig of Corunna; a daughter and son-in-law, Laurie and Jeff Steinbarge of Austin, Texas; a granddaughter, Logan of Austin; and a sister and brother-in-law, Jane and Jim Burgess of Arlington, Texas.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in Calvary United Methodist Church of Syracuse, with Pastor Steven Kaehr officiating. Burial will be in Ulrey Cemetery at Silver Lake.

Calling is Friday from 4-8 p.m., at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel, in Syracuse.

Memorials are to Community Nursing Service Home Health-Illinois.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 21 2003

Ralph Moden

LAGRANGE — Ralph L. Moden, 80, died Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

He had been a school teacher and pastor. He moved from Colon, Mich., to LaGrange in 1990. He was a member of the LaGrange Church of the Nazarene.

He was born in Morenci, Mich., Dec. 29, 1922, to Robert Clare and Linnie L. (Powell) Moden.

He married Thelma Lee Huffman. She died Aug. 31, 1977. He married Mary Leona (Wyatt) Lipscomb July 31, 1992, in Burr Oak Mich. She survives in LaGrange.

Also surviving are a daughter, Betty Lee Huffman of Sheffield, Texas; a son, Ismael Valdez Moden of Eagle Pass, Texas; two stepdaughters, Barbara Walker of Litchfield, Maine, and Sharon Zurakowski of Warsaw; two stepsons, Dennis Lipscomb of Memphis, Tenn., and Gary Lipscomb of Kendallville; one sister, Vanessa McClure of Tecumseh, Mich.; four grandchildren; 10 stepgrandchildren; and one stepgreat-grandchild.

Preceding him in death were a daughter, Constance Lee Moden; one sister; and two brothers.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, with the Rev. Eugene Sommer officiating. Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Life Care Center of LaGrange Memorial Fund.

Hazel Strayer

LAGRANGE — Hazel C. Strayer, 90, died Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

She was a homemaker and a member of East Springfield United Methodist Church and Ladies' Aid.

She was born in Avilla Jan. 14, 1913, to Jesse and Myrtie (Craven) Gingrich.

She married Loren C. Strayer Jan. 19, 1933, in LaGrange. He died July 24, 1989.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Wayne L. and Mary Strayer of Howe; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were three sisters, Mabel Wallace, Hilda Sherwood and Mildred Gingrich; and three brothers, Herman, Harvey and Harrison Gingrich.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Revs. Carldean Merrifield and James Bartlett officiating. Burial will be at East Springfield Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the East Springfield United Methodist Church.

Services Held

AVILLA — Services for **William E. Huff** were held Monday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dr. Dan Barker officiating. Burial was at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Pallbearers were Mark Zumbrun, Brandon Pulver, Kyle Orr, Mike Meroney, Kirk Magnuson and Kevin Libben.

AVILLA — Services for **Janice Groll** were held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Calvary United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Dr. Leonard King officiating. Burial was at Hopewell Cemetery, Avilla.

Pallbearers were Jerry Whan, Jay Whan, Perry Whan, Fred Wakeman, John Wakeman, and Steve Lehman. Honorary pallbearers were Don Crawford, Bud Pfafman, Forrest Parks and Dick Ross.

Brazzell Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Jacob Teague

CHURUBUSCO — Jacob Michael Teague, infant, was stillborn at 7:10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his parents, Jason M. and Sarah (Jantz) Teague of Churubusco; maternal grandparents, Steven and Jan Jantz of Churubusco; paternal grandparents, Kevin and Susie Teague of Churubusco; maternal great-grandmothers, Phyllis Anderson of Churubusco and Mary Jantz of Fort Wayne; and paternal great-grandparents, Ben and Vickie Teague and Lynn and Anita Bair, all of Churubusco.

Services are pending.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 22 2003

Albert Payne

GALIEN, Mich. — Albert Payne, 84, of Galien, Mich., died Friday, Feb. 21, 2003, at Hamilton Communities, New Carlisle.

Mr. Payne was born July 10, 1918, in Galien to Roy and Mary (Klute) Payne. On Aug. 7, 1938, he married Ellen McCarty in Galien. They were married for 60 years before Mrs. Payne preceded her husband in death on Oct. 31, 1998.

Mr. Payne and his wife lived, worked and raised their two children on their dairy farm just south of Galien. He was a member of the Michigan Farm Bureau. His love of horses was apparent with his membership in the Michigan Quarter Horse Association, the American Shetland Pony Association, the American Saddle Bred Association, the Michigan Horse Pullers Association and the Berrien County Sheriff's Posse.

He has family and business associates in the LaGrange area.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Carol Lea and Donald Bloom of Westville; grandchildren, Denise Klopfenstein, Rex A. Hayes, Lisa Ann Bloom and Deanna Lea Hofing; great-grandchildren, Logan Hayes, Kyle Hayes, Wyatt Hayes, Katrena Klopfenstein and Tyler Klopfenstein; a sister, Margaret Murdock of Florida; and two brothers and sisters-in-law, Ted and Grace Payne of Galien and Robert and Jimmie Payne of Angelton, Texas.

He was preceded in death by a son, Roy Allen Payne, on Aug. 12, 1962.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Galien United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Ray Dean McCarty officiating. Calling is from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday and Monday at the Payne residence, 19465 Cleveland Ave., Galien.

Burial will be in Galien Cemetery.

Memorials are to American Diabetes Association.

Arrangements are being handled by Pobocik Funeral Home, Connelly-Noble Chapel, Three Oaks, Mich.

Jacob Teague

CHURUBUSCO — Jacob Michael Teague, infant son of Jason M. and Sarah (Jantz) Teague of Churubusco, was stillborn Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Surviving are Jacob's parents; maternal grandparents Steve and Nan Jantz of Churubusco; paternal grandparents Kevin and Susie Teague of Churubusco; maternal great-grandmothers Phyllis Anderson of Churubusco and Mary Jantz of Fort Wayne; and paternal great-grandparents Ben and Vickie Teague and Lynn and Anita Bair, all of Churubusco.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco, with the Rev. Tim Grable, pastor of Sugar Grove Church of God, officiating. Burial will follow.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Flossie Miller

BROADVIEW, N.M. — Former LaGrange County resident Flossie L. Miller, 86, Broadview, N.M., died Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2003, at Plains Regional Medical Center, Clovis, N.M.

Mrs. Miller was born Dec. 24, 1916, in Steuben County, to Raymond and Mattie (Heckman) Aldrich. She married Robert T. Miller on Aug. 27, 1937, in Newport, Ky., and he preceded her in death on March 23, 1974.

She was a homemaker, and also worked as a companion for home health care.

Surviving is a daughter, Janet Pate of Broadview; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two stepsons, Ernie and Sam Black, two sisters, Frances O'Brien and Florence Royer, and three brothers, Freddie, Frankie and Ford Aldrich.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Greenlawn Cemetery, Orland, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield officiating. There will be no calling.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Arrangements are being handled by Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 23 2003

Fee recalled as woman of strong character

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ANGOLA — Charlotte Fee's life wasn't always easy. She was widowed young, and raised four children on her own, and she spent the last years of her life battling a disease that slowly ravaged her mind and body.

Mrs. Fee

But when friends and family gathered to remember Mrs. Fee on Friday, they remembered "a Christian lady of strong character," said Mrs. Fee's daughter, Susan Zimmer of Angola.

"That's what the pastor said at the service, and I think that sums her up so well," Susan said. "There were people at her service we didn't even know. It was just neat to think that in the last couple of years, even though she was so severely handicapped by her disease, she was still making friends."

Mrs. Fee, 78, Angola, succumbed after a 15-year battle with Parkinson's disease on Monday, Feb. 17, 2003, at Lakeland Nursing Center, Angola.

Parkinson's disease is a disorder of the brain characterized by shaking and difficulty with walking, movement and coordination. The disease is associated with damage to a part of the brain that is involved with movement.

When their mother died, Mrs. Fee's children spent a lot of time deciding how they would handle her services. In the end, they decided to have a graveside service and a celebration of life service at the church Mrs. Fee attended, rather than a traditional funeral.

"We were talking about it, and I said, 'How about we do the burial first, and then we celebrate the person she was?'" said Mrs. Fee's daughter, Cheralyn Shumaker of Cleveland Heights, Ohio. "I thought it would be best to get the sadness out of the way and do that, because she's in heaven now because of the person she was."

Mrs. Fee was born Feb. 28, 1924, in Auburn, to Carl and Alice (Radabaugh) Grill. She married William B. Fee in 1945, and he preceded her in death in 1966.

Being a young widow was something Cheralyn had often wondered how her mother handled.

"I was just with her this last weekend as we knew she was close to dying," Cheralyn said. "My sister Susie and her husband Matt were visiting their son at Notre Dame, and it just struck that when we were in college, those visits were something she had to do by herself. But she did it."

Mrs. Fee graduated as a registered nurse from Harper Hospital in Dearborn, Mich., in 1945. She was a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority for more than 40 years. Mrs. Fee immensely enjoyed doing volunteer work.

"She was an advocate for people, especially children," Susan said. "She volunteered for the Red Cross and the Well Child Clinic."

She was an active member of the Angola United Methodist Church and belonged to the Joyce Elliott Church Circle. She was a member of the Steuben County Republican Women and an early member of the Parkinson's and Alzheimer's support groups.

Mrs. Fee kept abreast of all the research about her disease, and elected to have invasive surgery in the summer of 2000 that was used to help in the study of Parkinson's.

"It didn't give her the walking back that it does for some people, but it did take away the rigidity that was causing her a lot of pain," Cheralyn said.

Iris Thomas met Mrs. Fee in 1966. The two women were members of the same sorority.

"She was a very unique person," Iris said. "She was kind and she was trustworthy."

Iris said even though she spent many years dealing with her illness, she can't remember her friend complaining about it.

"She always had a smile on her face," she said. "I certainly will miss her."

Mrs. Fee is also survived by two sons, Richard Allan Fee of Louisville, Ky., and William Calvin Fee of Angola; three brothers, Herschal Grill of Reno, Nev., Arden Grill of Fort Wayne and Gerald Grill of Waterloo; two sisters-in-law, Gretchen Fee of Hamilton, and Ann Fee London of Chicago; nine grandchildren, four stepgrandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Cheralyn said she believes her mother is at peace now.

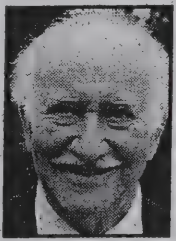
"She's whole," she said. "She's free from the body that kept her prisoner. She's smiling at us."

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 23 2003

Mason Buckner shared laughs, music with others

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

Mason Buckner met Elsa Linnea Olson while the two were students at Taylor University in Upland.


Mr. Buckner

The couple were married in 1932, and enjoyed a 67-year partnership in music and literature.

Mason died Feb. 13 at the age of 95.

Mason's wife, Elsa, taught English and speech until she retired at 63 to pursue a doctorate from Penn State. She went on to write books and plays, and lectured at the University of Stockholm. She earned a national award in 1981. The winner the following year was President Ronald Reagan.

Mauri Buckner said of her grandparents, "Elsa was definitely the motivating force in the marriage, but Mason was humor personified."

The couple helped raise Mauri's children during a family emergency. "Elsa would scoop them up and make them feel safe and loved, but Mason would make (my children) laugh," said Mauri.

Mason maintained his credentials as a Methodist minister, but, according to Mauri, he was best known as a choir director and music teacher.

One of Mason's former students said he always had a joke and made students feel good. Back in 1944, while Elsa directed the senior play at St. Joe High School in DeKalb County, Mason performed the music. That student, Marylou (Woodcox) Buckner, later married Elsa's younger brother. Marylou said of Mason, "He was a very talented and loving man, with a great sense of humor and a positive attitude."

Mauri's mother, Joyce, must have been a lot like Elsa. She was responsible for computerizing the New York Times. Sh passed away in December 2001. Th Buckners' youngest son, Gavin, is a commercial painter and lives in California.

The Buckners settled in the Big Lon Lake area of Wolcottville, where Els called Mason "a gentleman farmer," according to Mauri. They had to sell the cows and other animals, though, whe sons, David and Lowell, both commercia pilots, whisked the couple away on a series of European adventures.

Mauri began caring for her aging grandparents before Elsa died in 1999. Mauri said former students stopped by to chat with her grandfather, and he enjoyed performing an occasional wedding.

When Mason died Feb. 13 at the age of 95, Mauri said the best tribute came from a couple of former students, now in their 50s. They said they had eagerly passed along to their children and grandchildren, the love of music and fun they'd learned from their beloved Mr. Buckner.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 23 2003

Willis Teague

LAGRANGE — Willis G. (Bill) Teague, 68, died Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003, in LaGrange Hospital.

Mr. Teague worked in maintenance for Keidaish Vending Co. of Ligonier. He came to LaGrange 16 years ago from Wausau, Wis. He was a member of Moose Lodge No. 1576 in Wausau, Wis., and a veteran of the U.S. Army.

He was born April 20, 1934, to Isaac Marion Teague Sr. and Edith Irene Ballow.

He married Betty (Dean) Chester on Dec. 21, 1994 in LaGrange. She survives.

Also surviving are four step-children, Judith Bratz of Oshkosh, Wisc., Leland Sparks of Reading, Penn, Thomas Sparks of Yarmouth, Maine, and Dallas Sparks of Oshkosh, Wis.; three sisters, Brenda Lindsey and Verna Mae Mullins of Newport, Ark., and Linda Malone of Proctor, Ark.; two brothers, Jim Teague of Little Rock, Ark., and Isaac (Buddy) Teague Jr. of Grubbs, Ark.; and six grandchildren.

Services are Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home on S.R. 9 in LaGrange. The Rev. Thomas Bratz will officiate.

Calling is Tuesday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in the Woodruff Cemetery. Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Ethel Fritz

KENDALLVILLE — Ethel Fritz, 85, died Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville.

Funeral services are pending at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville.

Isaac Lung

GARRETT — Isaac Joseph Lung was stillborn Friday, Feb. 22, 2003, at Parkview hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was the child of Brian Scott and Cynthia Kay (Terry) Lung. They survive in Garrett.

Also surviving are one brother, Evan Michael Lung of Garrett; four grandparents, Larry and Jodi Lung and Roger and Sandy Terry, all from Garrett; four great-grandparents, Laurence and Sarah Lung of Bonita Springs, Fla., Irene Terry of Garrett, and Paul Beuchel of Carmel; four uncles, Mark Lung of Rockford, Ill., Larry Lung Jr., Tony Lung and Brent Terry, all from Garrett; three aunts, Valerie and Minda Lung of Garrett and Sarah Lung of Avilla; and several cousins.

Services are Monday at 2 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, 875 South Wayne Street, Waterloo. The Rev. John Stuck will officiate.

Calling is noon-2 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Burial will be at the Cedar Creek Chapel Cemetery in Garrett.

Memorials to the Waterloo Police reserve.

E-mail condolences to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 24 2003

Elmer Schermerhorn

HOWE — Elmer O. Schermerhorn, 84, died Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003, at his home.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army. He was a retired farmer and a lifetime resident of LaGrange County. He was a member of the First Church of God in LaGrange and Pretty Prairie United Methodist Church of Howe, and LaGrange American Legion Post 215.

He was born in LaGrange Oct. 31, 1918, to John H. and Bertha (Showalter) Schermerhorn.

He married Wilma Bontrager Oct. 7, 1951, in Howe. She died May 27, 1999.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Lolita and Dennis Sirens of Detroit; and one son and daughter-in-law, Larry A. and Tina Schermerhorn of Howe; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and two sisters, Ouida Alford of Fort Wayne and Mary Brand of Kalamazoo, Mich.

Preceding him in death was one brother, Horace Schermerhorn.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at the First Church of God in LaGrange, with the Revs. Brian VanOsdol and Chris Denny officiating. Burial will be in Pretty Prairie Cemetery, Howe, with military honors by American Legion Post 215.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange.

Memorials are to the First Church of God or Pretty Prairie United Methodist Church.

David Miller

TOPEKA — David J. Miller, 20, died Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003, after a six-week illness.

He was a lifetime resident of the area. He worked as a farmer and was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He was born in LaGrange County Aug. 5, 1982, to Jonas E. and Ida (Fry) Miller.

Surviving are three brothers and two sisters-in-law, Lonnie Miller of Middlebury, Perry J. and Keturah Miller of Nappanee and Paul I. and Regina Miller of Ligonier; four sisters and three brothers-in-law, Leona and Willard Yoder of Topeka, Sueanna and Mark Stoltzfus of Middlebury, Carolyn and Otto John of Ligonier and Marietta Miller of Topeka; and a maternal grandmother, Ola Fry of Topeka.

Services will be Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. at the Melvin Miler residence at 7615 S. C.R. 900W, Ligonier, with the Revs. Elmer Miller and Jerry Miller officiating. Burial will be at Hawpatch Cemetery, Topeka.

Calling will be today after 1 p.m. and all day Tuesday at the family residence at 7887 W. C.R. 1200N-57, Topeka.

Pallbearers will be Orvan Fry, Mervin Fry, David Otto, Nathan Schlabach, Paul Miller and Freeman Miller.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home of Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

Margaret Martin

LAGRANGE — Margaret A. Martin, 73, died Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003, at her home.

She was a retired registered nurse. She moved to LaGrange County from Indianapolis in 1969. She served in the U.S. Air Force. She was a member of Mount Zion Lutheran Church in LaGrange, the Sylvan Chapter 251 Order of the Eastern Star, and was a board member of LaGrange County Council on Aging and Region Three Aging & In Home Services.

She was born in Demorest, Ga., May 27, 1929, to Curtis and Flora (Ross) Duncan.

She married Keith B. Martin July 2, 1964, in Indianapolis. He died June 9, 2000.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Marty and Phillip Kiskaden of LaGrange and Wendy and Jeremy Glick of Fort Wayne; and one son, Keith B. Martin Jr. of Atlanta, Ga.; two stepdaughters, Nancy Callander of Lubbock, Texas and Judy and husband Charles Tyle of Sumter, S.C.; 11 grandchildren; four foster grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two sisters, Thelma Lynch of Fayetteville, N.C., and Loretta Hester of Dover, Del.; and one brother, Kenneth W. Duncan of Stanley, N.C.

One brother, James Duncan, preceded her in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Stephen Flynn officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Hope Scholarship Fund through the LaGrange County Community Foundation.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 24 2003

Harley Bontrager

LAGRANGE — Harley E. Bontrager, 79, died Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003, at his home.

He was a retired farmer and carpenter and had lived in LaGrange County all his life. He was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He was born in LaGrange County July 2, 1923, to Ezra and Susie (Lehman) Bontrager.

He married Orpha T. Lambright Nov. 8, 1945. She died Nov. 9, 1999.

Surviving are seven daughters and six sons-in-law, LeEtta Frey of Millersburg, Marie and Harvey Hochstetler of LaGrange, Marilyn and Wilbur Schlabach of LaGrange, Freda and Joni Bontrager, Viola and Herman Lehman and Elsie and Eli Miller, all of Shipshewana, and Marlene and John Riehl of Wolcottville; five sons and four daughters-in-law, Richard and Erma Bontrager and Wilbur and PollyAnna Bontrager, all of LaGrange, Ezra and Irene Bontrager of Wolcottville, Calvin and Jane Bontrager of Nappanee and Cletus Bontrager of Middlebury; 79 grandchildren; 68 great-grandchildren; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Amelia and Levi Yoder of Topeka, Ella and Melvin Nissley of Goshen and Lizzie Mae and Wilbur Bontrager of Middlebury; and four brothers and sisters-in-law, Levi and Ada Bontrager of Shipshewana, Monroe and Mary Bontrager of Millersburg, Andy and Edna Bontrager of Topeka and Samuel and Ada Bontrager of Middlebury.

Preceding him in death were a son-in-law, Daniel Frey; a grandson; and two brothers, Daniel and Joe Bontrager.

Services Held

AUBURN — Services for **Mark R. Krauskopf** were held Saturday at 10 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Lloyd Bickel officiating. Burial was in Concordia Gardens Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Pallbearers were Ralph Goshorn, Mike Weigold, Tyson Wallace, Tim Arnold, Steve Milholland and Jeff Krauskopf.

Hite Funeral Home of Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

Services will be Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. at the John Beechy residence at 1120 S. C.R. 250W, LaGrange, with Bishops Marvin Graber and LeRoy Troyer and the Rev. Vernon Miller officiating. Burial will be in Mast Cemetery.

Calling will be today after 5 p.m. and all day Tuesday at the family home at 0420 S. C.R. 300W, LaGrange.

Arrangements by Frurip-May Funeral Home of LaGrange.

and Judy and husband Charles Tyle of Sumter, S.C.; 11 grandchildren; four foster grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two sisters, Thelma Lynch of Fayetteville, N.C., and Loretta Hester of Dover, Del.; and one brother, Kenneth W. Duncan of Stanley, N.C.

One brother, James Duncan, preceded her in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Stephen Flynn officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Hope Scholarship Fund through the LaGrange County Community Foundation.

Ethel Fritz

KENDALLVILLE — Ethel L. Fritz, 85, died Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home.

She was a member of Trinity Church United Methodist in Kendallville and the Second Time Around Club. She was also a member of the Noble Chain Links Camping Club, the Ladies Aid at Center Chapel Church and a volunteer for the Northeastern Center in Kendallville. She had worked at Dick's Flower Shop and retired as a sales clerk for G.C. Murphy, both in Kendallville.

She was born near Cosperville Dec. 22, 1917, to Harry and Hazel (Frazie) Bailey.

She married August Carl Fritz Nov. 29, 1934, in Kendallville. He died July 11, 1999.

Surviving are four sons and daughters-in-law, Wendell and Marcia Fritz of Kendallville, Carroll and Joyce Fritz of Goshen, John and Doris Fritz of Redmond, Wash., and James and Betty Fritz of Elkhart; one daughter and son-in-law, Lois and Gary Dennis of Fort Wayne; two brothers, Harold Bailey of Kendallville and Donald and Oneita Bailey of Lakeland, Fla.; 19 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; a brother-in-law, Harry Wetzel of Kendallville; and a sister-in-law, Anna Bailey of Kendallville.

Preceding her in death was a sister-in-law, Bernadine Wetzel; and a brother-in-law, Kenneth Bailey.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dr. David Hogsett officiating. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Shepherd of the Hill nursing home. Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 25 2003

Dorothy Mowery

AVILLA — Dorothy A. Mowery, 62, died Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. Mowery

She was a member of the Gold Wing Motorcycle Association and had attended Bethel Christian Baptist Church in Kendallville.

She was born in Fremont Jan. 2, 1941, to Ralph and Helen (Diehm) Powell. Her mother survives in Kendallville.

She married Eugene Mowery April 21, 1962, in Avilla. He died July 21, 1994.

Surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Evelyn "Shelly" and Billy Baker of Avilla; her mother, Helen Powell of Kendallville; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Carolyn and Joe Kessler of Middlebury, Bonnie Powell of Kinderhook, Mich., and Connie and Roger Sparkman of Kendallville; two granddaughters, Brandi Blankenbeckler and Cree Baker, both of Avilla; and one grandson, Brian Stevens of Louisville.

She was preceded in death by one son, Brian Mowery.

Services will be today at 7 p.m. and Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Bethel Christian Baptist Church. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery in Brimfield.

Calling will be today after 2 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the family.

Hite Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to hitefuneralhome.com.

Sophia Brandenburg

COLUMBIA CITY — Sophia M. Brandenburg, 95, died Monday, Feb. 24, 2003, at The Oaks in Columbia City.

She had worked at Starcraft Corp. in Emma. She lived in Howe from 1952 to 1986 and moved to South Whitley in 1986. She was a member of Pretty Prairie United Methodist Church in Howe.

She was born in Whitley County Oct. 30, 1907, to Clyde F. and Amelia (Keiser) Montz.

She married Clifford H. Brandenburg Oct. 16, 1924, in Columbia City. He died Dec. 17, 1981.

Surviving are two daughters, Evelyn Crawford of Columbia City and Patricia Thomson of South Whitley; 12 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and one brother, Henry Montz of Winamac.

Preceding her in death were two sons, Russell "Bud" and Larry Brandenburg; one grandson, Scott Brandenburg; two sisters, Della Stanner and Sarah Lower; and one brother, Jesse Montz.

Services will be Friday at 3 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Dewey Miller officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be from noon until services.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association and the National Parkinson Foundation.

Dorothy Crumb

SOUTH BEND — Dorothy May Shelly Crumb, 87, died Friday, Feb. 21, 2003, at her home in St. Paul's Retirement Community, South Bend.

She moved to South Bend in 1933, living there until her marriage. The Crumbs moved to Osceola in 1954. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Mishawaka, where she served on the board of trustees and deacons, and was also secretary for 18 years, retiring in 1985. Mrs. Crumb was a charter member of the Osceola Chapter 598 Order of the Eastern Star.

She was born Aug. 15, 1915, in LaGrange to Vern E. and Margaret J. (McCoy) Shelly.

She married Neil L. Crumb Aug. 15, 1953. Mr. Crumb died Feb. 17, 1977.

Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Martha S. and John C. McCoy of Danville; three grandchildren, six great-grandchildren; and a brother, Lloyd E. Shelly of Howe; and a number of nieces and a nephew.

Her brother, Phillip, who made his home with her in Osceola, passed away in 2001.

Memorials may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, or the Presbyterian Church's Deacon's Fund.

Memorial services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Mishawaka.

Calling will be one-half hour before services.

Palmer Funeral Home-Osceola is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
FEBRUARY 25 2003

Edgar Edwards

AUBURN — Edgar C. Edwards, 74, died Monday, Feb. 24, 2003, at 2:30 a.m. at his home in Auburn.

Mr. Edwards owned and operated General Sign Co. in Auburn for 22 years before retiring. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War.

He was born Nov. 15, 1928, in Wolfe County, Ky., to Edgar Cleveland Edwards and Bertha (Orsborne) Edwards.

On Dec. 16, 1967, in Convoy, Ohio, he married Ardeth Coleen Sheets. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Beth and Tim Sexton of Kendallville and Linda and Zach Rhodes of Avilla; a stepson and his wife, Rick and Sandy Mansfield of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Edna Mae Smith and Marcella Kelly, both of Dayton, Ohio; four grandchildren, Cody, Jeremy, Dharma and Jason Rhodes; a stepgranddaughter; and one step-great-granddaughter.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, General, Vernon, Alfred and Steve Edwards; and three sisters, Marie Andrasik, Geneiva Dill and Dorothy Hodges.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with Pastor Barry Jorris officiating. Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery of Auburn.

Calling is Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

F. Pauline Shoemaker

NORTH WEBSTER — F. Pauline Shoemaker, 82, died Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003, at Woodview Healthcare Inc. of Fort Wayne.

She was a payroll clerk at Sealtest Foods in Huntington for 35 years.

She was born in Majenica.

Surviving are her son, Dale J. Thompson of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Karen Sprow of Machies, Maine; a sister, Joan Gillman of Wolcottville; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her first husband, Robert E. Thompson in 1957; her second husband, L. Haven Ottinger in 1977; her third husband, Herman Shoemaker in 2002; and a son, Gale M. Thompson in 1993.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, Columbia City. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Warren.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 5 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Hospice of Fort Wayne.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@demoney-grimes.com.

Ronald Hesher

DECATUR — Ronald E. Hesher, 63, died Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003, at home.

He retired from B.F. Goodrich in Woodburn in 1995 after 30 years. He also worked at Decatur Wire & Die in Decatur. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

He was born in Adams County.

Surviving are his wife, Johanna; two sons, Eric W. Hesher of Avilla and Brian W. Hesher of Indianapolis; a brother, Neil Hesher of Daytona Beach; and two grandchildren.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 8 p.m. with Decatur Lodge 571 F&AM at Haggard & Sefton Funeral Home, Decatur. Burial will be in Decatur Cemetery.

Calling will be two hours before services.

Memorials are to Hospice of Northeast Indiana or Dyslexia Foundation.

ALBION NEW ERA

FEBRUARY 26 2003

Dorothy A. Mowery

AVILLA – Dorothy A. Mowery, 62, died February 23, 2003, at her home.

She was a member of the Gold Wing Motorcycle Association and had attended Bethel Christian Baptist Church in Kendallville.

She was born in Fremont January 2, 1941, to Ralph and Helen (Diehm) Powell. Her mother survives in Kendallville.

She married Eugene Mowery April 21, 1962, in Avilla. He died July 21, 1994.

Surviving are a daughter, Evelyn "Shelly" and Billy Baker of Avilla; her mother, Helen Powell of Kendallville; three sisters and two brother-in-laws, Carolyn and Joe Kessler of Middlebury, Bonnie Powell of Kinderhook, MI, and Connie and Roger Sparkman of Kendallville; two granddaughters, Brandi Blankenbeckler and Cree Baker, both of Avilla; and one grandson, Brian Stevens of Louisville.

She was preceded in death by her son, Brian Mowery.

Services were held Wednesday, February 26, 2003, at Bethel Christian Baptist Church, Kendallville. Burial was in Orange Cemetery, Brimfield. Memorials are to the family.

Gilva Miller

KIMMELL – Gilva E. Miller, 78, died at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 18, 2003, at her home.

She was a lifelong resident of Noble County. She had worked at Wirk Garment in Ligonier and as a custodian for West Noble School Corp. She was a member of Kimmell United Methodist Church. She enjoyed ice fishing.

She was born in Kimmell November 19, 1924, to Dora and Edith (Growcock) Fausnaugh.

She married Joseph F. Miller May 3, 1952, in Burkett. He survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, David J. and Kenda Miller of Cromwell; two daughters and one son-in-law, Billie S. Brown of Ligonier and Becky L. and Kim Hausbach of Goshen; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by four brothers and four sisters.

Services were held Friday, February 21, 2003, at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Don Poyser officiating. Burial took place in Sparta Cemetery.

Edgar C. Edwards

Edgar C. Edwards, 74, died February 24, 2003, at home.

Mr. Edwards owned and operated General Sign Co., Auburn for 22 years. He was a Korean War U.S. Army veteran.

He was born on November 15, 1928, in Wolfe County, Kentucky, to Edgar Cleveland Edwards and Bertha (Orsborne) Edwards.

On December 16, 1967, in Convoy, Ohio, he married Ardeth Coleen Sheets.

Surviving are his wife, Ardeth Coleen; two daughters, Beth Sexton of Kendallville, and Linda Rhodes of Avilla; a stepson, Rick Mansfield of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Edna Mae Smith and Marcella Kelly, both of Dayton; four grandchildren, Cody, Jeremy, Dharma and Jason Rhodes; a step-granddaughter; and a step-great-granddaughter.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, General, Vernon, Alfred and Steve Edwards; and three sisters, Marie Andrasik, Geneiva Dill and Dorothy Hodges.

Services are Thursday, February 27, 2003, at Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, Calling is from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery, Auburn. Memorials to the family.

ALBION NEW ERA

FEBRUARY 26 2003

Ronald E. Hesher

Ronald E. Hesher, 63, died February 23, 2003, at home.

Born in Adams County, he retired from B.F. Goodrich, Woodburn, in 1995 after 30 years. He had also worked at Decatur Wire & Die, Decatur. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran.

Surviving are his wife, Johanna; two sons, Eric W. of Avilla and Brian W. of Indianapolis; a brother, Neil of Daytona Beach; and two grandchildren.

Services will be at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 1, 2003, at Haggard & Sefton Funeral Home, Decatur, with calling two hours before services and a memorial service by Decatur Lodge 571 F.&A.M. at 8 p.m. Burial in Decatur Cemetery. Memorials to Hospice of Northeast Indiana or Dyslexia Foundation.

Diane Wisnieski

FALLS CHURCH, VA – Diane Marie (Buchmeier) Wisnieski, age 49, died on Monday, February 10, 2003, at Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, VA.

Mrs. Wisnieski was born in Garrett, IN. She was a 1971 graduate of Central Noble High School and a graduate of International Business College in Fort Wayne.

A mass of Christian burial was celebrated on Thursday, February 13, 2003, at St. Marks Catholic Church in Vienna, VA.

She is survived by her husband, Jon Wisnieski and two children, James and Laura, all of Oakton, VA; her parents, Richard and Donna Buchmeier of Kendallville; her grandmother, Ruth Shirk of Avilla; four brothers, and numerous other family members.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Lung Association or the American Cancer Society.

LaVera Walters

ASHLEY — LaVera M. Walters, 66, Ashley, died Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Angola.

Ms. Walters was born Aug. 18, 1936, in Auburn, to Harold and Vera (Fisher) Walters. She had lived in Ashley for the past 20 years.

She formerly worked at Klink Trucking, Commercial Love Lace Trucking Co., Kmart Distribution and the Auburn Gas Co.

Though she never had any children of her own, she loved her nieces and nephews as her own and loved all children she met.

She was a member of Calvary Temple of Fort Wayne, where she was secretary. She also taught Sunday school at Pleasant Lake United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Keith D. Walters.

Surviving are three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Barbara Wurm of Fort Wayne, Ginny and Tom Simons of Pleasant Lake and Janet and Jim Foreman of Fort Wayne; a brother and sister-in-law, Dick and Patty Walters of Ware Shoals, S.C.; and many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

Private services will be held, with Ms. Walters' niece Jill Simons-Willman conducting. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Memorials are to camp scholarships for grades one through five at Oak Hill at the Crossroads.

Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson is handling arrangements.

Condolences can be e-mailed to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct the date of the funeral and to add a survivor.

Dorothy Crumb

SOUTH BEND — Dorothy May Shelly Crumb, 87, died Friday, Feb. 21, 2003, at her home in St. Paul's Retirement Community, South Bend.

She moved to South Bend in 1933, living there until her marriage. The Crumbs moved to Osceola in 1954. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Mishawaka, where she served on the board of trustees and deacons, and was also secretary for 18 years, retiring in 1985. Mrs. Crumb was a charter member of the Osceola Chapter 598 Order of the Eastern Star.

She was born Aug. 15, 1915, in LaGrange to Vern E. and Margaret J. (McCoy) Shelly.

She married Neil L. Crumb Aug. 15, 1953. Mr. Crumb died Feb. 17, 1977.

Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Martha S. and John C. McCoy of Danville; three grandchildren, six great-grandchildren; and a brother and sister-in-law, Lloyd E. and Reta Shelly of Howe; and a number of nieces and a nephew.

Her brother, Phillip, who made his home with her in Osceola, passed away in 2001.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, March 8, at 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Mishawaka.

Calling will be one-half hour before services.

Memorials may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, or the Presbyterian Church's Deacon's Fund.

Palmer Funeral Home-Osceola is in charge of arrangements.

Tommy and Troy Brown

CROMWELL — Tommy Joe and Troy Michael Brown, infants, died Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2003, shortly after birth.

Surviving are their parents, Theda Gregory and Troy Brown.

Arrangements are pending at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel, Syracuse.

Jane Hart

FORT WAYNE — Jane A. Hart, 89, died Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

She retired in 1980 as a department manager at Montgomery Ward after 20 years.

She was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are two sons, Irvin M. Hart Jr. of Auburn and Douglas F. Hart of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Deborah J. Hayes of Albion; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Her husband, Irvin M. Sr., died in 1988.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home. Burial will be in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorials are to Crescent Avenue United Methodist Church.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct an error.

LaVera Walters

ASHLEY — LaVera M. Walters, 66, Ashley, died Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Angola.

Ms. Walters was born Aug. 18, 1936, in Auburn, to Harold and Vera (Fisher) Walters. She had lived in Ashley for the past 20 years.

She formerly worked at Klink Trucking, Commercial Love Lace Trucking Co., Kmart Distribution and the Auburn Gas Co.

Though she never had any children of her own, she loved her nieces and nephews as her own and loved all children she met.

She was a member of Calvary Temple of Fort Wayne, where she was secretary. She also taught Sunday school at Pleasant Lake United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Keith D. Walters.

Surviving are three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Barbara Wurm of Fort Wayne, Tom and Ginnie Simons of Pleasant Lake and Jim and Janet Foreman of Fort Wayne; a brother and sister-in-law, Dick and Patty Walters of Ware Shoals, S.C.; and many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

Private services will be held, with Ms. Walters' niece Jill Simons-Willman officiating. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Memorials are to camp scholarships for grades one through five at Oak Hill at the Crossroads.

Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson is handling arrangements.

Condolences can be e-mailed to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ethel L. Fritz** were held Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dr. David Hogsett officiating. Burial was in Orange Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Gary Dennis, Jeff Fritz, Dave Fritz, Tim Fritz, Bob Fritz, Joel Fritz, Shane Housholder, Samuel Fritz, Seth Fritz and Jason Fritz.

Honorary pallbearers were Janet Homola, Deb Barwick, Lori Beeber, Lesa Hershberger, Linda Pieri, Tammie Teeter, Rachel McCann, Kristi Schell, Molly Krieger and Dawn Housholder.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Dorothy Mowery** were held Wednesday at Bethel Christian Baptist Church, with the Rev. Jamie Owens officiating. Burial was in Orange Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Roger Sparkman, Billy Baker, Billy Blankenbeckler, Barry Poynter, Robert Kessler, Jeff Kessler and Brian Stevens.

Hite Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Willis G. "Bill" Teague** were held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home, with Thomas Bratz officiating. Burial was at Woodruff Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Mike Dean, Clarence Dean, Don Dean, Leon VanHook Jr., Tom Bratz Jr. and James Bratz Jr.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 27 2003

Ruth Long

LAGRANGE — Ruth M. Long, 88, died Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

Mrs. Long

She was a homemaker and telephone operator. She lived most of her life in LaGrange County. She was a member of First United Methodist Church of LaGrange.

She was born in Howe Jan. 9, 1915, to Clyde and Etta (Fair) Shultz.

She married Giles D. Long June 19, 1937, in Howe. He survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Sue Ann and Kenneth Bousner of LaGrange; a son, Richard C. Long of LaGrange; and a grandson, Evan G. Long of LaGrange; and three sisters, Florence Shultz, Rachel Miller and Mary Jane Hoerl, all of Howe.

Preceding her in death was a sister, Mabel Forker.

Services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Dexter Garman officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery at a later date.

Calling will be Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the LaGrange County Animal Shelter.

Kay Smart

HUNTINGTON — Kay Ann Smart, 66, died Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was retired from the clerk's office at the Huntington County Courthouse. She had also worked 10 years at Juergen's Do-It Center, Marsh Grocery and Sealtest, all in Huntington.

She was born in Huntington.

Surviving are her husband, Robert D. Smart; two sons, Steve L. Smart of Hudson and Monty J. Smart of Huntington; two daughters, Sherry Cotton and Debra S. Smart Ellenberger, both of Huntington; a brother, Mark Cozad of Huntington; a sister, Lisa Berry of Andrews; and 10 grandchildren.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Bailey-Love Mortuary, Huntington. Burial will be in Gardens of Memory in Huntington County.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m.

Memorials are to Erin's House in care of the mortuary, 35 W. Park Drive, Huntington, IN 46750.

Christopher Tarman

NEW PARIS — Christopher Charles Tarman, 17, died at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003, from injuries in a traffic accident on C.R. 127 north of New Paris.

He was a junior at Fairfield High School and worked at Everett's Grocery Store in Goshen. He was a member of St. John's Catholic Church and formerly attended St. John's Catholic School.

He was born in Columbia City Feb. 16, 1986, to David and Laura (McClement) Tarman.

Surviving are one sister, Sarah A. Tarman of New Paris; two brothers, David I. Tarman of Elkhart and Todd Burton of Tampa, Fla.; grandparents, Beverly Tarman of Goshen and Irene McClement of Rome City; and aunts and uncles, Sandy and Sid Fischer of Kendallville, Kim and Mark Leiter of Avilla and Charles and Roxanna McClement of Rome City.

Services were held Monday.

Memorials are to Fairfield High School.

Estill Perkins

CARRIE, Ky. — Estill "Bub" Perkins III, 35, died Thursday, Feb. 13, 2003, at his home.

He was born in Kendallville March 1, 1967, to Estill Jr. and Bessie (Campbell) Perkins.

Surviving are his wife, Christine (Hollifield) Perkins; two children, Estill Adam Perkins IV and Jenoa Perkins, both of Stroh; three sisters, Beaulah Fugate and Georgia Emery, both of Kentucky, and Michelle Perkins of Angola; and one grandson, Isaiah Perkins of Stroh.

Services were Sunday, Feb. 16, at Hindman Funeral Home. Burial was at Perkins Cemetery in Carrie.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at New Freedom Baptist Church in LaGrange, with the Rev. Wade Sturdivant officiating.

Memorials are to the family.

THE NEWS SUN

FEBRUARY 28 2003

Ronald Rhodes

CHURUBUSCO — Ronald P. Rhodes, 81, died at 7:38 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2003, at The Oaks in Columbia City after a lengthy illness.

As a boy he moved to a farm in Eel River Township and lived there the rest of his life. He graduated from Churubusco High School in 1940. Besides farming, he worked as a school bus driver for the Huntertown School, at the former McCoy Lumber Co. in Churubusco and at Maloley Brothers in Fort Wayne. He also enjoyed woodworking.

He was born in Swan Township, Noble County, May 16, 1921, to Clarence E. and Georgiana (Fogel) Rhodes.

He married Mardell Blessing April 30, 1955. She survives. They were married for nearly 48 years.

Also surviving are a son, Doyle O. Rhodes of Churubusco; two daughters, Doreen Rhodes of Fort Wayne and Denise Geiger of Churubusco; and a grandson, Zachary Geiger of Churubusco.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs of the Churubusco United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at Riverview Cemetery south of Churubusco.

Calling will be today from 6 to 8 p.m. and one hour before services.

Memorials are to Ronnie's Earth Angel or to Parkview Home Health and Hospice in Columbia City.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Glen Evers

WARSAW — Glen D. Evers, 91, died at 6:55 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, 2003, at Mason's Health Care.

He lived in Warsaw since 1945. He was a retired mechanic and worked for Howard Automotive in Warsaw. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and American Legion Post 49, both in Warsaw. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the European Theater during World War II.

He was born in Montpelier, Ohio, March 29, 1911, to Colson and Grace Evers.

He married Edna Thompson Aug. 21, 1948, in Warsaw. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Ruth Sand of Kendallville; three grandchildren, Teresa Beltz of Troy, Ohio, Dr. David Sand of Fort Wayne and Laura Harrison of Indianapolis; and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by four sisters.

Services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at McHatton-Sadler Funeral Chapel in Warsaw, with Pastor Randy Murphy officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery.

Calling will be two hours before services at the chapel.

Memorials are to the First Presbyterian Church.

Mabel Largen

SYRACUSE — Mabel Largen, 83, formerly of Ligonier, died at 10:40 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital.

She had worked at Essex Corp. as an inspector. She was a member of the Richville United Methodist Church.

She was born in Frankfort, Ind., April 5, 1919, to Homer and Bessie (Garrison) Justice.

She married Elmer L. Largen July 24, 1935, in Flora, Ind. He died Jan. 8, 2002.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Freda Rinker and Jill and Paul Beezley, all of Syracuse; a brother, Fred Largen of Tipton; two sisters, Mary Miller of Logansport and Esther Clingenpeel of Flora; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by a son, Charles, in 1983; and two grandchildren.

Services will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier. Burial will be in Syracuse Cemetery.

Calling will be Saturday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Alice Kastner

NEW PORT RICHEY, Fla. — Alice Jean Kastner, 83, died Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2003, in Florida.

She was born in Kendallville April 7, 1919, to Howard and Alice (Rimmel) Arehart.

Surviving are two sons, Craig of Pleasant Lake and David of New Port Richey.

Dobies Funeral Home of New Port Richey is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 1
Kendallville, Indiana

Joyce Haviland

PORTLAND — Joyce Haviland, 69, of Portland, died Friday, Feb. 28, 2003, at her residence.

Born in Jay County on Aug. 13, 1933, she was the daughter of Joseph and Goldie (Miller) Kidder.

On June 13, 1954, she married Mickey Haviland, who survives.

She was a telephone operator for United Telephone in Portland and attended Zion Lutheran Church.

Surviving, in addition to her husband, are two sons and daughters-in-law; James and Jackie Haviland of Monroe, and Chris and Mae Haviland of Zionsville, Ohio; a daughter and son-in-law, Cheryl and Crag O'Neal of Kendallville; a brother, Bill Kidder of Richmond; a sister, Delores King of Portland; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Three children, two brothers and a granddaughter preceded her in death.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, Portland, with Pastor Mark Strietelmeier officiating. Burial will follow in Lawndale Cemetery.

Calling is from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Mercer County Hospice.

Edward Sweeney

LAGRANGE — Edward Sweeney, 79, died Friday, Feb. 28, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

In Morehead, Ky., on Jan. 16, 1924, he was born to William Erwin and Polly (Johnson) Sweeney. He married Hildreth O. Fultz on Nov. 17, 1948, in Morehead, Ky. She died on Feb. 15, 1994.

Mr. Sweeney came to LaGrange County in 1975 from Hamlet.

He was a retired sawmill owner and operator, and a member of the Wesleyan Church, Hamlet.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Anne and Jerry Hackworth of LaGrange; a sister, Icylene Stigall of Shelby, Ohio; a brother, Denzil Sweeney of Hamlet; and a grandson, Clinton Hackworth of Alberta, Canada.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with Pastor Harold D. Gingerich. Burial will be in Woodruff Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Calling is 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 2 Kendallville, Indiana

Turning tragedy into triumph

Margaret Martin faced adversity with an admirable sense of humor

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

MONGO — Margaret (Duncan) Martin turned tragedy into triumph. As a toddler, she fell into a fireplace and suffered third-degree burns over 60 percent of her body. Throughout her growing-up years, she underwent at least 80 plastic surgeries.

Mrs. Martin

In spite of all that, her daughter Marty Kiskaden said, "She had a great sense of humor." In fact, just a few days before her death last Saturday at the age of 73, she was joking, "It's not over till the fat lady sings." Kiskaden said her mother was a little heavy, and she could not sing. But evidently she could still tell a joke.

Because she grew to admire the work of the medical personnel who cared for her, Martin decided to go into nursing. She served in the Air Force reserves, and had planned to go full-time, until she met Keith Martin. She decided to enlist in marriage instead. The couple were married in Indianapolis in 1964 and enjoyed a 36-year partnership.

After moving from Indianapolis to the Mongo area in 1969, she was director of nursing at the LaGrange Hospital. Life-saving techniques were still new at the time, and when she realized the local emergency personnel didn't know CPR and first aid techniques, she taught them the skills herself.

While her husband was busy working for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., Martin and their children ran the Trading Post camp store and canoe rental business in Mongo. Kiskaden and her brother and sister and two half-sisters learned how to work hard and take responsiblity at a young age. They were responsible for watering the new trees everyday — with water they carried up from the river. When their mother had to leave to pick up canoers downriver, the children managed the store and restaurant.

In her spare time, Martin was active in numerous volunteer positions, including the Lions Club and Cub Scouts.

During the celebration of the nation's bicentennial in 1976, Martin encouraged local patriotism. After getting permission from the town fathers, she spearheaded the Scouts' efforts to paint the old iron bridge in Mongo red, white and blue.

"The Mongo bridge story even made it into the Fort Wayne newspapers," Kiskaden said proudly. The bridge is gone now, but the old-timers still smile at their brief brush with fame.

Martin had an unusual nickname. One of Kiskaden's sons had a slight speech impediment and his attempts to say "Grandma" came out "Graw." At a McDonald's restaurant once, Martin heard someone calling out, "Hi, Graw." She turned to see one of her granddaughter's old boyfriends on his way over to greet her.

Martin's influence is blessing others through her children and grandchildren. Besides being active on several boards and community activities, at least two of them have cared for, and adopted, several foster children.

Margaret Martin is probably singing now.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH
Kendallville, Indiana
2

Mrs. Dahl faced life, illness with strength

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ANGOLA — Lorrayne Dahl's children remember their mother as a woman of strength and character.

"She was a very strong person, and she had a very good outlook, even when she was dealing with her situation," said Mrs. Dahl's daughter, Julie Kellett.

Mrs. Dahl's "situation" was a rare form of sarcoma. She battled the cancer for three years, and succumbed on Monday. She died at home. She was 72.

At the time for her death, Mrs. Dahl was a homemaker. Throughout her life, she owned her own custom drapery business, as well as a gift shop.

"She had a good personality," Julie said.

But, Julie added, she said what was on her mind. "She would speak her mind, but tactfully, I think," she said.

Julie said family and friends will always remember Mrs. Dahl as an "original."

"She was an extraordinary woman," she said. "She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother."

Mrs. Dahl was born in Cooperstown, N.D., Dec. 20, 1930, to Arthur and Ella (Gunderson) Edland. She married Rolland C. Dahl June 24, 1950, in Valley City, N.D. He survives in Angola.

Mrs. Dahl's son, Bob, said his mother was "fun. She was opinionated in her own right."

Also surviving are two other sons, Jim Dahl of Angola and Paul Dahl of Denver; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; three sisters, Karen Dempsey of Eagar, Ariz., Elizabeth Harris of Bismarck, N.D., and Willis Brekke of Cooperstown.

Phyllis Raper

WAWAKA — Phyllis P. Raper, 77, died at 6 a.m. on Saturday, March 1, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

Before retirement, Mrs. Raper worked at Tokheim in Albion. She was a member of American Legion 351 Auxiliary in Rome City and Eagles FOE Auxiliary 985 in Kendallville.

Mrs. Raper

She was born Jan. 22, 1926, to Jonas and Anna Edith (Lieth) Brown in Green Township, Noble County. She married Roland J. Raper on Dec. 23, 1985, in Brimfield. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Craig and Pam Miller of Rome City and Michael and Laurie Miller of LaGrange; two daughters, Judith Moore of South Bend and Nancy Hoff of Waterloo; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a sister, Waneta Cook of Rome City.

Services will be 3 p.m. Monday at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville. Chaplain Mark Klinepeter will officiate. Burial will be in Orange Cemetery in Rome City.

Calling will be noon to 3 p.m. Monday at the funeral home, with American Legion Auxiliary services at noon.

Memorials are donor's choice.

Sandra Spillner

BIG LONG LAKE — Sandra Jo Spillner, 68, died at 1 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28, 2003, at home.

Before retirement in 1991, Mrs. Spillner worked at Duro-Therm in LaGrange. She was a member of VFW Post 2749 Auxiliary, American Legion Auxiliary 86, Eagles FOE Auxiliary 985 and Women of the Moose in Kendallville.

Mrs. Spillner

She was born Aug. 9, 1934, to G. Arthur and Molly Irene E. (Williams) Drerup in Auburn. She married Robert H. Spillner on May 22, 1981, in Stroh. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Charles Spillner of Hamilton and Robert Spillner of Kendallville; two daughters, Linda Allen of Big Long Lake and Kay Campbell of Kendallville; a stepdaughter, Latonia Ziegert of Vicksburg, Miss.; two stepsons, Tommie Spillner of Perry, Mich., and Jack Drerup of Union City, Mich.; a brother, David Drerup of Montpelier, Ohio, and a sister, Margaret Ann Henderson of Waterloo; 12 grandchildren; 8 stepgrandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; 12 stepgreat-grandchildren; and a stepgreat-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Merridith Kay Wilson, in 1974.

Services will be 11 a.m. Tuesday at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville. The Rev. Dean Bearman of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Avilla will officiate. Burial will be in Brushy Chapel Cemetery in LaGrange.

Calling will be 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Richard Smith

ANGOLA — Richard Smith, 87, died Friday, Feb. 28, 2003, at Northern Lakes Nursing and Rehab in Angola.

Before retiring in 1978, Mr. Smith worked for the Indiana Department of Transportation. He also farmed his own land for 20 years and worked for Tri State Tool Co. for 17 years. He was a member of Pleasant View Church of Christ in Angola, the Angola Moose Lodge and AARP.

He was born April 27, 1915, to Frank and Cora D. (Wolf) Smith in Bristol. He married Alice Cleckner on Dec. 4, 1936. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Phillip Richard Smith of Pahrume, Nev.; a daughter, Judy K. Eaton of Angola; a sister, Clara Belle Rensberger of Fort Wayne; three grandchildren, Sandra Apodaca, Suzie McConhay and Jodi Gardner; eight great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandson.

He was preceded in death by two sisters and seven brothers.

Services will be 1 p.m. Monday at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola. Pastors Jim Hulbert and James Minear will officiate. Burial will be in South Scott Cemetery in Steuben Township.

Calling will be 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Memorials are to North Scott Christian Church.

Marjorie Wallace

ASHLEY — Marjorie A. Wallace, 67, died Thursday, Feb. 27, 2003, at Kendallville Manor Health Care.

Before retiring in 1997, Mrs. Wallace worked at the Covington Box Company for 12 years. She was a former member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Kendallville and was interested in sports, gardening and NASCAR. She was known as the "bean lady" at the Farmer's Market in Auburn.

She was born Feb. 1, 1936, in Ashley to Hugh and Ova (Boone) Reecer. She married Jack P. Wallace on Jan. 24, 1981, in Helmer. He survives.

Also surviving are three sons, Kelly Smith of Kendallville, Monty Smith of Columbia City and Tim Smith of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Diana Smith of Rome City and Cindy Martin of Kendallville; four stepdaughters, Jana Hill of Knox, and Kathy Wallace, Ann West and Jackie Haverstock, all of Butler; two brothers, Harold Reecer of Florida and James Reecer of Fort Wayne; three sisters, Edith Getts of Ashley, Evelyn Kaiser of Florida and Jean Albaugh of Fort Wayne; 30 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two stepdaughters, Leeann Wallace and Lynette Wallace; a granddaughter, Michelle; and a sister, Opal.

Services will be 1:30 p.m. today at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo. The Rev. Ralph Diehl will officiate. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery in Garrett.

Memorials are to Corunna Fire Department.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN

MARCH Kendallville, Indiana

2

Helen Shutt

AUBURN — Helen Shutt, 86, died at 10:40 a.m. on Saturday, March 1, 2003, in Betz Nursing Home in Auburn.

Mrs. Shutt was a homemaker and a member of Auburn First United Methodist Church and Auburn Eastern Star 103.

She was born Feb. 3, 1917, to Paul and Bessie (Boren) Freeman in Allen County. She married Donald Shutt on Dec. 31, 1939, in the Methodist Parsonage. He preceded her in death on Dec. 28, 2002.

Mrs. Shutt

Also preceding her in death are a son, Gary Lynn Shutt; a grandson, Brian Bowling; two brothers, Otho and Bob Freeman; and two sisters, Louis Nieuwlandt and Phyllis Conner.

Surviving are two sons, Larry D. Shutt and Kenneth L. Shutt, both of Auburn; a daughter, Janis Marie Bowling of Auburn; a brother, Jack Freeman of Pine Island, Fla.; two sisters, Laura Rosebury of Butler and Betty Lemper of North Carolina; six grandchildren, Todd Shutt, Troy Shutt, Jason Shutt, Billy Shutt, Ryan Shutt, and Marcus Bowling; seven great-grandchildren, Zachary Shutt, Devon Shutt, Nicholas Shutt, Macey Shutt, Madison Shutt, Maxim Rault and Reagan Bowling; and two step-great-grandchildren, Tiffany Tellez and Justin Tellez.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo. The Rev. Paul C. Burris will officiate. Burial will be in Cedar Creek Chapel Cemetery in Garrett.

Calling is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home, with an Eastern Star service at 8 p.m.

Memorials are to Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children or a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Jane Williams

AUBURN — E. Jane Williams, 66, died on Friday, Feb. 28, 2003.

Mrs. Williams was employed at Eckhart Public Library in Auburn for the past 12 years. She formerly worked as a librarian at Jersey Shore Public Library in Pennsylvania and as a public school teacher specializing in English, grammar and speech. She was a member of numerous church choirs, the DeKalb Oratorio Society, the Huguenot Society of America, the Daughters of the American Revolution and First United Methodist Church in Auburn. She was a poet, author and genealogist.

Mrs. Williams

She was born March 8, 1936, to Albert Paul and Gertrude (Campbell) McIntire in East Rainelle, W.Va. In 1954, she graduated from Rainelle High School. From 1954 to 1958, she attended Anderson University in Indiana. In 1962, she graduated from Marshall University in West Virginia with a bachelor's degree in English. She married the Rev. O. Dale Williams 38 years ago. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Anthony Sean Williams of LaPorte and Christopher Jon and Kimberly Williams of Anderson; two sisters, Patricia Clemons of Excello, Mo., and Wanda Arthur of Houston; and three grandchildren, Natalie Williams, Emma Williams and Alexander Mendoza.

Services will be 11 a.m. Tuesday at First United Methodist Church in Auburn. The Revs. William Kaster, Paul Burris and Don Dennison will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Calling will be 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo and 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesday at the church.

Memorials are to Eckhart Public Library or First United Methodist Church.

THE NEWS SUN

MARCH Kendallville, Indiana

2

Donna King

BUTLER — Donna King, 79, died on Saturday, March 1, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. King was a homemaker and former owner and operator of Donna's Beauty Salon. She was a member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Auburn.

Mrs. King

She was born Feb. 2, 1924, to Roscoe and Esther (Huntington) Freeman in DeKalb County. She married Ralph Pfefferkorn on Feb. 22, 1944. He preceded her in death in June 1960. She then married Charles "Tom" Aldrich in June 1964. He preceded her in death on Dec. 26, 1992. She then married Loren King on April 29, 2000, in Auburn. He survives.

Also surviving are four sons and three daughters-in-law, Paul and Dalene Pfefferkorn of Hamilton, David Pfefferkorn of Montana, Keith and Beth Aldrich of Waterloo, and Thomas and Maribeth Aldrich of Hicksville, Ohio; a daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Daniel Walker of Auburn; a daughter-in-law, Alice Pfefferkorn of Waterloo; six stepchildren and their spouses, Deloss Aldrich of Montana, Duane Aldrich of Howe, Lowell and Yvonne King of Waterloo, Wayne and Debbie King of Butler, Darrell and Tina King of Angola, and Cheryl and Bill Click of Auburn; two brothers, Dale Freeman of Auburn and Robert Freeman of Kendallville; 14 grandchildren; 10 stepgrandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three sons, Richard Pfefferkorn, Lawrence Pfefferkorn and Charles Ray Aldrich; and a sister, Ila Jean Frey.

Services will be 10 a.m. Wednesday at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Auburn. Father Charles Herman and the Rev. Ralph Diehl will officiate. Burial will be in the Immaculate Conception Church cemetery.

Calling will be one hour prior to services at the church and 3 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo with rosary service at 8 p.m.

Memorials are to the charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

John Turner

AUBURN — John Elliott Turner, 71, died at 11:35 p.m. on Saturday, March 1, 2003, at home.

Mr. Turner

Before retiring in 1996, Mr. Turner was a teacher for 37 years. He taught at Akron High School in Akron, Ohio, DeKalb Central Middle School and DeKalb Central High School. He was a veteran of the Korean Conflict, a member of Waterloo United Methodist Church and a former member of the Waterloo Lions Club.

He was born July 4, 1931, to John Henry and Anna B. (Jarrell) Turner in Muncie. He married Sharon Junkin on Aug. 18, 1961, in Peru. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, John H. and Terri Turner and David J. and Mai Turner, all of Auburn; a daughter and son-in-law, Anna and Carter Feller of Auburn; four brothers, Joseph Turner of Yorktown, James Turner and David Turner, both of Muncie, and Robert Turner of Brookville, Ohio; two sisters, Martha Lutz of Spring Port and Lois Wheeler of Zionsville; and five grandchildren, Gregory Allen Feller, Kyle Edward Feller, Meredith Ellen Turner, John Elliott Turner and Evan David Turner.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Henrietta Seidner.

Services will be 11 a.m. Wednesday at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo. The Rev. John Hostetter will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery in Auburn, with a graveside service by the Auburn American Legion.

Calling will be 2 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Waterloo United Methodist Church, the American Cancer Society and DeKalb Memorial Hospice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Christian Schwartz

GENEVA — Christian E. Schwartz, 76, died at 10:20 a.m. Saturday, March 1, 2003, at Adams County Memorial Hospital.

He was a painter and farmer. He was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He was born in Adams County Jan. 15, 1927, to Dan J. and Esther (Ebersol) Schwartz.

He married Bertha D. Schwartz Nov. 24, 1949, in Adams County. She survives.

Also surviving are eight daughters and sons-in-law, Esther and Roman Troyer of Monroe, Delilah and Andy R. Eicher of Berne, Edith and Andy Gingerich of Stonecreek, Ohio, Bertha and Tom Martin of Jonesville, Mich., Barbara and Amos Swartzentruber of Fresno, Ohio, Susie and Pete Swartzentruber of Homer, Mich., Rose and Menno J.M. Schwartz of Bryant, Edna and Robert J. Schwartz of Celina, Ohio; eight sons, Levi B. Schwartz of Monroe, Joe B. Schwartz of Bryant, Dan B. Schwartz of Omega, Wis., Chris B. Schwartz of Berne, Jake B. Schwartz of Centreville, Mich., Elmer B. Schwartz of LaGrange, Enos B. Schwartz of Geneva and Aaron B. Schwartz of Geneva; 126 grandchildren; and 41 great-grandchildren; two brothers, David E. and Aaron E. Schwartz, both of Geneva; four sisters and brothers-in-law, Elizabeth and Chris A. Graber of Portland, Leah and Petie G. Schwartz of Seymour, Mo., Barbara and Dan S. Hilry of Geneva and Sarah and Amos N. Eicher of Hudson, Ky.

Preceding him in death were a son, John B.; three brothers, John E., Joseph E., and Jonas E.; a sister, Fannie Girod; half brothers Menno D., Jacob D. and Daniel D.; and one half sister, Anna Mast.

Services will be Tuesday at 9 a.m. at his home at 9404 S. C.R. 550E, Geneva, with Jonas J. Graber officiating. Burial will be in Bunker Hill Cemetery, Geneva.

Calling is today from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at his home.

Yager-Kirchhofer Funeral Home in Berne is in charge of arrangements.

Judith Moore

KENDALLVILLE — Judith L. (Steele) Moore, 59, died Saturday, March 1, 2003, at her home.

She was born in Fort Wayne Aug. 24, 1943.

Her second husband, Billy Moore, survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are two sons, Donald Steele of Spencerville and Lance Steele of Richmond; a brother, Lanny Maloney of Baltimore; her father, George Maloney of Indianapolis; and two grandchildren.

Her first husband, Raymond E. Steele, died in 1984.

Services will be Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home in Auburn. Burial will be in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home and one hour before services.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society of Noble County Hospice.

Ruthann Hurst

SOUTH MILFORD — Ruthann Hurst, 60, died at 7:25 a.m. Sunday, March 2, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne, after a six-month illness.

She retired from Flint & Walling Mfg. in Kendallville on Feb. 7 after 42 years of service. She was a lifetime area resident.

Mrs. Hurst

She was born in Wabash Nov. 8, 1942, to Melvin and Dorothy (Robinson) Dickerson.

She married Jim Hurst Sept. 27, 1974, in South Milford. He survives in South Milford.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Cathy and Ron Deter of South Milford; a son and daughter-in-law, John and Michelle Lankford of Kendallville; five grandchildren, Melissa and Matt Deter, Aaron and Alec Traxler and Alana Lankford; a brother, Jerry Dickerson of South Milford; and a sister and brother-in-law, Sandra and Nicholas Beedle of South Milford.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville, with Pastor Sam Weimer officiating. Burial will be in the South Milford Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 3 to 8 p.m. and one hour before services at the funeral home.

Rev. Ernest Pelz

HUNTINGTON — Rev. Ernest L. Pelz, 85, died Sunday, March 2, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a minister in the Church of the Nazarene, serving churches in New Haven, Faith Chapel in Huntington and Ligonier. He had served churches in Florida for several years.

His first wife, Jeannette, died in 2000.

Surviving are his wife, Miriam; four sons, Elvan Lee Pelz of Roanoke; Glenn R. Pelz of Montpelier, Ohio, David L. Pelz of Fort Wayne and Jerry W. Pelz of Huntington; a daughter, Jeanine Carney of Yoder; two brothers, Howard and Chester Pelz, both of Florida; a sister, Lillian Jacobs of Elkhart; 12 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Liberty Mills Church of the Nazarene. Burial will be in Greenlawn Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 5 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Roanoke Memorial Chapel and one hour before services.

Memorials are to New Hope Church of the Nazarene, Fort Wayne or the American Heart Association.

Condolences may be e-mailed to drvgfuneral@skynet.net.

Giles Ogg

HUDSON — Giles W. Ogg, 81, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Saturday, March 1, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was a self-employed plumber and veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during World War II.

He was born in Decatur.

Surviving are his wife, Betty; two sons, Jerry Ogg of Fort Wayne and John Ogg of Albion; two daughters, Cindy Todaron and Jennifer Barkey, both of Fort Wayne; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and a sister, Lucille Stauffer of Fremont.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, Fort Wayne. Burial will be in Greenlawn Memorial Park, with military rites by the U.S. Army.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Everald Myers

FISHERS — Everald G. Myers, 80, formerly of Fort Wayne and Danville, Ill., died at 11 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28, 2003, at St. Vincent's Hospital in Carmel.

He retired in 1989 as senior buyer at General Electric in Fort Wayne after 46 years of service. He was a veteran of the Army Air Corps, serving during World War II.

He was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Wolcottville and a former member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Danville and Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne. He was a former member of the Summit City Barbershop Chorus and the G.E. Quarter Center Club.

He was born in Waterloo April 8, 1922, to Glen R. and Esther (Martz) Myers.

He wife, Louise H., died in 1993.

Surviving are three daughters, Diane M. Lee of Vermont, Judith L. Schubert of St. Louis and Jill A. Leighty of Fishers; a son, David W. Myers of Ossian; a sister, Margie Henry of Grandville, Mich., a brother, Bill Myers of Louisville, Ky.; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Also preceding him in death was a daughter, Jan Elizabeth Myers.

Services will be today at 2:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, with the Rev. Thomas Eggold officiating. Burial will be in Concordia Cemetery Gardens.

Calling will be today after 1 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Immanuel Lutheran in Danville, Messiah Lutheran in Wolcottville or the Summit City Barbershop Chorus.

Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Sherran Fenker

CHURUBUSCO — Sherran K. Fenker, 60, died at 9:18 a.m. Monday, March 3, 2003, in Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

She was a cafeteria worker at Smith-Green Schools in Churubusco. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of Ege and Fort Wayne Highlights. She enjoyed cross-stitching, football and NASCAR.

She was born in Enid, Okla., on Aug. 8, 1942, to Robert G. and Myrtle (Wilmont) Schuelein.

She married David Fenker Nov. 29, 1969, in Fort Wayne. He survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Kristine and Mark Trabel of Garrett; two sons and one daughter-in-law, Curtis Fenker of Albion and Andrew and Michelle Fenker of Churubusco; two sisters, Georgia Rieck of Fort Wayne and Shirley Simpson of Wichita, Kan.; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Ege, with Father Danney Pinto officiating. Burial will be in Ege Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. with rosary at 3:30 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home of Churubusco.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Roland Mayes

Mr. Mayes

ROME CITY — Roland Mayes Jr., 82, died Sunday, March 2, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

He was a pharmacist for 67 years. He was owner of Mayes Pharmacy in Wolcottville from 1981 to 1989. He moved to Rome City from Elkhart in 1981. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving during World War II. He was a life member of American Legion Post 381 in Rome City and the V.F.W. Post 2749 in Kendallville.

He was born in Alma, Mich., June 11, 1920, to Roland I. and Marie J. (Parker) Mayes.

He married E. Ellowee Heminger Dec. 1, 1945, in Shipshewana. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Marsha S. Long of LaGrange; a son and daughter-in-law, Gregory K. and Colleen Mayes of Goshen; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield officiating. Burial will be in Rice Cemetery, Elkhart.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Pharmacy Alumni Scholarship Endowment in care of Ferris State University at Big Rapids, Mich.

THE NEWS SUN

MARCH 4 Kendallville, Indiana

Helen Lytle

FREMONT — Helen J. Lytle, 81, died Sunday, March 2, 2003, at Community Health Center of Branch County in Coldwater, Mich.

She was retired from Acorn Products in Quincy, Mich. She also worked at Maple Lawn Medical Care Facility in Coldwater. She graduated from Fremont High School in 1940. She was a member of Jamestown Church and the Ladies Aid. She was a member of the Age and Beauty Home Economics Club, Orland American Legion Post 423 Ladies Auxiliary. She enjoyed quilting and sewing and helping others.

She was born in Steuben County May 16, 1921, to Ray and Delilah (Hulse) Brown.

She married Charlie B. McCurley in 1941. He died in 1985. She married Wilbur Lytle Aug. 30, 1994, in Fremont. He survives.

Also surviving are a stepdaughter; four stepsons; several nieces and nephews; two sisters, Marie Crooks of Huntertown and Maxine Rome of Columbia City; a brother, Edward Brown of Auburn; and a sister-in-law, Martha Brown of Fremont.

Preceding her in death besides her first husband were a brother, Herbert Brown; and three sisters, Pauline Watters, Esther Boise and Edith Brown.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Beams Funeral Home in Fremont, with the Rev. Dale Gerig officiating. Burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery, Quincy.

Calling will be Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Jamestown Church in Fremont.

Sister Inez Carrillo

AVILLA — Sister M. Inez Carrillo O.S.F., 88, died at 7:40 a.m. Sunday, March 2, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home.

She worked in child care and domestic work at St. Vincent Orphanage, Freeport, Ill., for 22 years. She was also a missionary in Icoaraci, Brazil, for 10 years and retired from Provena United Samaritan Medical Center, Danville, Ill., in 1994. She had lived in Avilla since 1997.

She was born in Teocaltiche, Jalisco, Mexico, July 10, 1914, to Jesus and Apolinaria (Moran) Carillo.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Provena Sacred Heart Home Chapel, with Father Daniel Leeuw officiating. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Home Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 7 p.m. with wake at 7 p.m. at Provena Sacred Heart Home.

Memorials are to Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart Senior Sisters Retirement Fund, 9201 W. St. Francis Road, Frankfort, IL 60423-8335.

Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla is in charge of arrangements.

Chris Hilty

MONROE — Chris H. Hilty, infant, was stillborn Saturday, March 1, 2003, in Adams County.

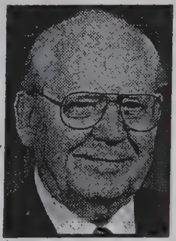
Surviving are his parents, Melvin B. and Mary L.L. Hilty; a brother, Paul Hilty of Monroe; a sister, Rebecca Hilty of Monroe; grandparents, Ervin R. and Ruth Ann Hilty and Levi B. and Lucinda Schwartz, all of Monroe; and great-grandparents, Alvin L. and Fannie Hilty of Berne, Joe K. and Elizabeth Hilty and Levi J. and Mary Shetler, all of LaGrange; and Bertha D. Schwartz of Geneva.

Services were held at the family's residence. Burial was in Schwartz Cemetery, Monroe.

Yager-Kirchhofer Funeral Home in Berne was in charge of arrangements.

Oris Martin

SYRACUSE — Oris "Lefty" Wayne Martin, 88, died at 3 a.m. Monday, March 3, 2003, at his home of an apparent heart attack.



Mr. Martin

He lived in the Cromwell area since 1939. He was self-employed at various occupations. He had owned and operated Cromwell Grain Elevator. He contracted acreage and transported for Campbell Soup Co. for 15 years. He built grain storage in New Haven, Lafayette and Champagne, Ill., and contracted with the U.S. government to buy and sell grain. He owned Cle-Mar Cartage Co. in Cromwell. He also participated in money management corporations.

He was a member of Cromwell United Methodist Church. He graduated from Trafalgar High School in 1932 and from Purdue University in 1937. At Purdue, he was captain of the baseball team for four years. It was at Purdue that he picked up the nickname "Lefty" because he was a left-handed pitcher. He was a member of Purdue's Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity.

He was charter member of the board of directors of the Cromwell State Bank. For over 50 years he was a member of both the Cromwell-Kimmell Lions Club and Masonic Lodge.

He was born in Knox County near Vincennes April 18, 1914, to William Wayne and Nellie Helen (McClure) Martin.

He married Mary H. Hunt June 4, 1939, in Johnson County. She survives in Syracuse.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, David and Sharron Martin of North Webster; a twin sister, Iris D. Hanning of North Manchester; nine grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

A son, Thomas J. Martin, preceded him in death in 1999.

Services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Chris Dare officiating. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Cromwell United Methodist Church.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 5
Kendallville, Indiana

Betty Miller

MIDDLEBURY — Betty Miller, 82, died at 3:20 p.m. Monday, March 3, 2003, at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, where she had been hospitalized a week.

Mrs. Miller

She lived most of her life in the Middlebury area. She was a homemaker and member of First Mennonite Church and First Mennonite Women's Club. She loved to give away her baked items.

She was born in Shipshewana Sept. 21, 1920, to Rudolph J. and Mary Ann (Yoder) Kaufman.

She married Daniel J. Miller Oct. 13, 1940, in Middlebury. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Larry D. and Lori Miller, and Glen Dale and June Miller, all of Middlebury; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were five sisters, Fannie Bontrager, Clara Cross, Sylvia Miller, Alma Yoder and Mary Nisley; and five brothers, Ralph, Tobe, Harvey, Melvin and Fred Kaufman.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at First Mennonite Church in Middlebury, with the Revs. Linford Martin and Pamela Yoder officiating. Burial will be in Miller Cemetery, Goshen.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home of Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Donald Stapleton

FORT WAYNE — Donald E. Stapleton, 66, died Tuesday, March 4, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He retired in 1999 as an engineer from Navistar after 40 years of service.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife, Ruth Ann; a son, Kenneth E. Stapleton of Marion; a sister, Gayle Mossop of Bertrand, Neb.; four stepsons, Michael J. Maloney and Nicholas J. Maloney, both of Fort Wayne, Donald J. Maloney of Middlebury and Ronald J. Maloney of Churubusco; and a stepdaughter, Ann Marie Keltsch of Portland, Ore.

Graveside services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at Greenlawn Memorial Park Chapel.

Calling will be 30 minutes before services.

Memorials are to Carriage House, Fort Wayne.

C.M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Phyllis P. Raper** were held Monday at 3 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home, with Chaplain Mark Klinepeter officiating. Burial was in Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Pallbearers were Seth Boszor, Justin Miller, Chris Moore, Russell Wilson, Darrel Morin, Steve Adelman, Lyn Alleshouse and Damon Burkley.

Benjamin Hall

AUBURN — Benjamin "Ben" Hall, 60, died Tuesday, March 4, 2003, at Parkview Memorial Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Hall worked as a melt supervisor at Auburn Foundry for 30 years. He was an avid fisherman and loved his granddaughters. He served in the U.S. Army.

He was born Aug. 3, 1942, in Kentucky to Spencer and Lona (Tuttle) Hall.

He is survived by his wife, Buretta (Manns) Hall, of Auburn; one daughter, Cathy D. Sliger of Auburn; one brother, Tommy Hall of Kentucky; four sisters, Lottie Hall and Ruth Slone, both of Shipshewana, and Renda Slone and Brenda Owens, both of Kentucky; a special nephew, Tony Benjamin Manns of Bloomington; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Glen and Pam Manns and Bill and Veva Blaylock; a sister-in-law, Vera Bailey; and two granddaughters, Courtney Sliger and Cooper Steward.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. Pastor Wade Sturdivant will officiate. Burial will be in Fairfield Cemetery near Corunna.

Calling is Thursday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Jackson Township Softball Association.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy @fellerfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

MARCH

Kendallville, Indiana

5

Blanche Sible

CHURUBUSCO — Blanche M. Sible, 82, died at 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, 2003, at her home in Eel River Township in Allen County. She had been in declining health for three months.

Mrs. Sible

Before her marriage she worked at Blue Bell in Columbia City. She was a homemaker and helped her husband on the couple's farm east of Churubusco. She enjoyed all kinds of cooking and baking, camping and fishing.

She moved from Noble County to Green Township in Allen County as a young girl.

She was born in Swan Township in Noble County Nov. 24, 1920, to Lodie and Eva (Richards) Freeman. As a young girl she moved with her family to Green Township.

She married Clarence E. Sible March 1, 1941, in Columbia City. He survives. They were married 62 years. They lived most of their married life on their farm east of Churubusco.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Harold Schinbeckler of Churubusco; three sisters and a brother-in-law, Laura Shank of Churubusco, Mary and Jim Gerber of Garrett and Neva Writesell of Fort Wayne; a brother and sister-in-law, Wilbur and Kay Freeman of Marion; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death was a son, Larry L. Sible, on Jan. 3, 1984; a sister, Myrtle Nine; and a brother Jim Freeman.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Nikki Marker officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery south of Churubusco.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health and Hospice, Columbia City.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

S 5/ p

Annabelle Golden

ANGOLA — Annabelle "Annie" Smith Golden, 88, of Angola and formerly of Ligonier, died at 12:55 p.m. Monday, March 3, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn. She had been in declining health the last week.

Mrs. Golden

She was a lifelong Noble County resident. She had owned and operated her father's hardware store, J.F. Seagly Co. in Ligonier. She had also been a social worker for Noble County. She was a member of Ligonier United Methodist Church.

She attended Kalamazoo College and earned a degree from DePauw University in 1939. She was an avid reader and a member of a circuit book club that met in homes in Ligonier. She had been a member of the Ligonier Business & Professional Women. She also enjoyed Bible study, watching television and being with her grandchildren. She enjoyed spending time at her cottage on Lake Wawasee.

She was born in Topeka Feb. 28, 1915, to John F. and Georgianna (Miller) Seagly.

She married Eldon Smith in October 1940 in Kendallville. He died in 1955. She then married John Golden in December 1960 in Ligonier. He died in 1980.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Jill and Gus Haughey of Hamilton and Allyson and Jerry Ellis of Fort Wayne; and five grandchildren.

A sister, Norma Seagly Gates, preceded her in death.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Ligonier United Methodist Church, with Larry Baker officiating. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Calling will be Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Ulrey-Reriner Funeral Home.

Memorials are to the Arthritis Foundation.

G 3/4 p5

THE NEW ERA
MARCH Albion, Indiana
5

Sherran Fenker

CHURUBUSCO -- Sherran K. Fenker, age 60, of rural Churubusco died at 9:18 a.m. Monday, March 3, 2003, in Lutheran Hospital of Fort Wayne.

She was born on August 8, 1942, in Enid, OK to Robert Schuelein and Myrtle Wilmont Schuelein. She married David Fenker on November 29, 1969 in Fort Wayne, IN.

She was a cafeteria worker at Smith-Green Schools in Churubusco and a member of Immaculate Conception Church of Ege.

She is survived by her husband, David of Churubusco; one daughter, Kristine and (Mark) Trabel of Garrett; two sons, Curtis Fenker of Albion and Andrew and (Michelle) Fenker of Churubusco; two sisters, Georgia Rieck of Fort Wayne and Shirley Simpson of Wichita, Kansas; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Visitation is today from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home of Churubusco with a rosary at 3:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be Thursday at 10 a.m. in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church at Ege, with Fr. Danney Pinto officiating. Burial will follow in Ege Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society.

Jane A. Hart

Jane A. Hart, 89, died Tuesday, February 25, 2003, at Parkview Memorial hospital in Fort Wayne.

Born in Fort Wayne, she was the Department Manager at Montgomery Ward for 20 years, retiring in 1980 and a member of Crescent Avenue United Methodist Church. She was also a member of the Esther Circle at Crescent UMC, Happy Wonderer's Widow's Club and Montgomery Ward's Retiree's Group. She enjoyed her church activities.

Survivors include two sons, Irvin M. Hart, Jr or Auburn and Douglas F. Hart of Fort Wayne; daughter, Deborah J. Hayes of Albion; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Irvin M. Hart, Sr. in 1988, four brothers and one grandson.

Services were held Saturday, March 1, 2003, at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home in Fort Wayne. Burial was in Greenlawn Memorial Park. Memorials to Crescent Avenue United Methodist Church.

Giles Ogg

HUDSON – Giles W. Ogg, 81, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Saturday, March 1, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was a self-employed plumber and veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during World War II.

He was born in Decatur.

Surviving are his wife, Betty; two sons, Jerry Ogg of Fort Wayne and John ogg of Albion; two daughters, Cindy Todaron and Jennifer Barkey, both of Fort Wayne; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and a sister, Lucille Stauffer of Fremont.

Services were held Wednesday, March 5, 2003, at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, Fort Wayne. Burial was at Greenlawn Memorial Park, with military rites by the U.S. Army.

Memorials are to the donar's choice.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH Kendallville, Indiana
6

Timothy Kline

Mr. Kline

WARSAW — Timothy W. Kline, 46, died at 2:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 4, 2003, at Kosciusko Community Hospital.

He was a Jehovah's Witnesses minister. He was an avid outdoorsman who loved to hunt, fish and camp. He enjoyed cooking for his friends, especially chili and biscuits and gravy.

He was born in Kendallville Oct. 8, 1956, to Franklin L. and Delores J. (Wilson) Kline.

He married Deborah Elaine Kline Nov. 2, 1996, in Warsaw. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Bobby Lee Kline of Warsaw; two daughters, Shannon Marie Kline and Julie Ann Fender, both of Warsaw; grandchildren, Ethan I.W. Kline and Angelina M.F. Fender, both of Warsaw; his father, Franklin L. Kline of Plato; and Delores J. Kline of Kendallville; a brother, Jeff A. Kline of Kendallville; a sister, Ginny Dickerhoof of Kendallville; two stepbrothers; and five stepsisters.

His stepmother, Ola Faye Kline, preceded him in death.

Services will be Sunday at 4 p.m. at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Warsaw, with Mark Klingerman and Bob Baker officiating. No burial. Cremains will be scattered in a private family ceremony at a later date.

Calling will be two hours before services.

Memorials are to the Tim Kline Family Memorial Fund in care of Jehovah's Witnesses of Warsaw.

Billings Funeral Home of Warsaw is in charge of arrangements.

Ruby Pheils

SHIPSHEWANA — Ruby H. Pheils, 93, died at 8:50 a.m. Wednesday, March 5, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor nursing home in LaGrange.

She graduated from Lima High School in 1927. She attended Western Michigan University for two years, then taught at Silver Creek School near Burr Oak, Mich. She enjoyed playing piano and organ, working crossword puzzles and cooking. She was also a seamstress at Howe Military School. She was a member of Lima Presbyterian Church in Howe and a member of the Seybert Ladies Aid.

She was born in Ashley, Neb., Oct. 4, 1909, to Fred and Kate (Fair) Harris.

She married Daryle S. Pheils June 6, 1931, in Howe. He died in 1983.

Surviving are a son, Frank Pheils of Shipshewana; and two daughters and a son-in-law, Janet Pheils of Schoolcraft, Mich., and Beverly and Keith Schrader of Three Rivers, Mich.; four grandchildren, Steven Pheils of Scott, Ind., Scott Hensley of Amo, Ind., Michelle Todd of Sturgis, Mich., and Sandra Capps of South Haven, Mich.; and seven great-grandchildren.

Services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe, with Dr. Terry T. Timson officiating. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery, Howe.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Lima Presbyterian Church.

Patricia Coffey

ANGOLA — Patricia Coffey, 71, died Tuesday, March 4, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a machine operator at Dana Weatherhead in Angola, retiring in 1992 after 15 years of service.

She was born July 30, 1931, in Angola, to Christopher and Hannah (Beebe) Petre.

Surviving are three sons, Jerry Petre of Metz, C. Gene Coffey of Kendallville and Randy Coffey of Angola; a brother, Burton C. Petre of Angola; three sisters, Jane Hopkins of Edon, Ohio, Bonnie Pinkham of Bryan, Ohio, and Donna King of Angola; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Three children, twins Keith and Barbara Kim Coffey and Timothy Todd Coffey; a brother, Basil Petre; and three sisters, Rose Grady, Nellie Winebrenner and Kathryn Alleshouse preceded her in death.

Services will be Saturday at noon at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola, with calling one hour prior to services. The Rev. Jim Hulbert will officiate. Burial will be in South Scott Cemetery, Steuben County

Memorials are to the cemetery.

Maria Miller

TOPEKA — Maria Jane Miller, two months, died at 5:50 a.m. Wednesday, March 5, 2003, at her home. She had been ill since birth.

She was born in Topeka Jan. 6, 2003, to Herman C. and Doris (Lambright) Miller. They survive.

Also surviving are her grandparents, Chris D. and Katie Miller of Topeka and Edward Jr. and Mary Lambright of Shipshewana; a great-grandmother, Clara Miller of Topeka; and two brothers, Roman and Benjamin Miller, at home.

Preceding her in death were her grandmother, Esther Lambright; and one infant cousin.

Services will be Friday at 9:30 a.m. at Chris and Katie Miller's home at 3035 S. C.R. 700W, Topeka, with Bishop Ervin Miller and the Revs. Mervin Hershberger and David Chupp of the Old Order Amish Church officiating. Burial will be in Hawpatch Cemetery, Topeka.

Calling is today after 2 p.m. at the same location.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Infant boy Yoder

LIGONIER — Infant boy Yoder was stillborn at 1:20 a.m. Wednesday, March 5, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital.

Surviving are his parents, Larry H. and Rosetta (Miller) Yoder of Ligonier; grandparents, Harry A. and Sue Ann Yoder of Goshen and Raymond J. and Lovina Miller of Wolcottville; a great-grandmother, Fannie Miller of Millersburg; three sisters, Velda Ann, Karen and Dorene Kay Yoder, all al home; and two brothers, Lamar Dean and Faron Ray Yoder, both at home.

The family has held graveside services at Hawpatch Cemetery, Topeka, with Bishop Willard Lee Yoder of the Old Order Amish Church officiating.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury was in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ruthann Hurst** were held Wednesday at 11 a.m., with Pastors Worley Gibson and Sonny Stanley officiating. Burial was in South Milford Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Joe Martin, Tom Hoover, Carl Freel, Tom Gust, Roger Speicher and Randy Meadows.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Sandra Jo Spillner** were held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dean Bearman officiating. Burial was in Brushy Chapel Cemetery, LaGrange.

Pallbearers were William Wilson, Matthew Wilson, Christopher Wilson, Trent Buhl, Adam Buhl and Joseph Spillner.

Carolyn Christian

KENDALLVILLE — Carolyn Christian, 53, died at 5:10 a.m. Thursday, March 6, 2003, at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

She graduated from Avilla High School in 1966. She was employed at No-Sag in Kendallville for 12 years. She was a member of Bethel Christian Baptist Church.

She was born in Prestonsburg, Ky., April 11, 1949, to William and Ruby Jean (Conn) DeRossett.

She married David M. Christian March 2, 1968, in Kendallville. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Mark and Barb Christian of Huntertown and Kevin and Sabrina Christian of Kendallville; a daughter and son-in-law, April and David Blank of Chicago; two brothers, Garry DeRossett of Whiteland and Larry DeRossett of Otisville, Mich.; and six grandchildren, Cassandra, Ariel, Alana, Colby and Grace Christian and Lauren Blank.

She was preceded in death by her parents; an infant brother; an infant sister; and a grandson, Cory Christian.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Bethel Christian Baptist Church, west of Kendallville, with the Rev. Jamie Owens and Shawn Shepherd officiating. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery near Rome City.

Calling will be today after 3 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana, 5910 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46814.

Hite Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Eileen Schrock

LAGRANGE — Eileen L. Schrock, 75, died at 3:15 a.m. Thursday, March 6, 2003, at the home of her son James Mynhier in Wolcottville. She had been ill for over a year.

She was a homemaker and member of the Johnson Township Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. She had been a den mother for the Cub Scouts in Wolcottville for several years.

She was born in Garrett April 30, 1927, to James and Eva (Snyder) Nodine.

Her first husband Leonard Mynhier preceded her in death. She married Edward A. Schrock in November 1963, in LaGrange. He survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Brenda and Ronald Logan of Wolcottville; three sons and a daughter-in-law, Douglas and Diana Mynhier of Avilla, James Mynhier of Wolcottville and Steve Mynhier of LaGrange; 14 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Betty Westrick of Wilmington, Ill.

She was also preceded in death by a granddaughter, Michelle Mynhier.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville, with Pastor Earl Rose Jr. of Liberty Freewill Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Johnson Township Fire Department.

Brooke Targgart

AUBURN — Brooke Nicole Targgart, 10 months old, died Wednesday, March 5, 2003, at Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis.

She was born April 7, 2002, in Auburn to James D. and Debbie (Collier) Targgart. Her parents survive in Auburn.

Brooke Targgart

Also surviving are her grandparents, Dianna Collier of Waterloo and James and Sharon Targgart of Rome City; great-grandparents Ruth Miller of Wilshire, Ohio, and Mildred Targgart of Wawaka; and aunts and uncles, Laura Torres of Auburn, Emily Collier of Waterloo, Andy Collier of Waterloo, Brenda Myers of Rome City and Mike Targgart of Kendallville.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. The Rev. Ernie Kohlmyer will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery of Auburn.

Calling will be Saturday from noon to 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Riley Children's Hospital Heart Center or to the family.

Condolences may be sent by e-mail to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN

MARCH 7 Kendallville, Indiana

Anna Miller

LIGONIER — Anna S. Miller, 73, died at 2:35 p.m. Thursday, March 6, 2003, at her home, after a five-month illness.

She was a homemaker and member of the Old Order Amish Church and a lifelong area resident.

She was born in Topeka Feb. 8, 1930, to Samuel and Fanny (Schrock) Bontrager.

She married Ezra E. Miller Dec. 13, 1951. He survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Mary Alice and Vernon H. Miller of Topeka; four sons and three daughters-in-law, Marion and Clara Miller of Howe, Cletus and Rosetta Miller of Saffell, Ark., Glen Miller of Elkhart and Mervin and Katie Miller of Ligonier; 22 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; nine sisters and seven brothers-in-law, Wilma and Daniel Lambright of Wolcottville, Nettie and William Yoder of Topeka, Mary and Dan Beiler of Sarasota, Fla., Ida Mae and Perry J. Lehman of Topeka, Edna and Levi Mast of Millersburg, Irene Gingerich of Topeka, Erma and Vernon Miller of Topeka, Elma and Norman Miller of Middlebury and Ruby Miller of Topeka; and one brother, Daniel S. Bontrager of LaGrange.

Preceding her in death were an infant son; a stillborn daughter, Ruby; a sister, Viola Bontrager; a brother, Elmer Bontrager; and one grandson.

Services will be Sunday at 1 p.m. at the Glen Hochstetler residence at 11435 W. C.R. 700S, Millersburg, with Bishop Levi Barkman and the Rev. Earl Miller of the Old Order Amish Church officiating. Burial will be in Hawpatch Cemetery, Topeka.

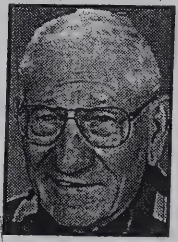
Calling will be today after 3 p.m. and all day Saturday at the Mervin Miller residence at 11385 W. C.R. 300S, Ligonier.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Virgil Leazier

KENDALLVILLE — Virgil E. Leazier, 91, died Thursday, March 6, 2003, at his daughter's home.

He worked for Allen County Motors in Fort Wayne for 45 years. He lived in the Albion and Kendallville areas for 5 1/2 years. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army. He was a member of Disabled American Veterans and American Legion Post 381 in Rome City.



Mr. Leazier

He was born in Fort Wayne Jan. 12, 1919, to George E. and Mary (Driver) Leazier.

He married Eloise E. Olinger May 28, 1938, in Fort Wayne. She died Jan. 13, 1994.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Cynthia and Alan Biddle of Kendallville.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion, with the Rev. Ron Stratman of Beacon Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in Orange Township Cemetery, Rome City.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. and one hour before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Beacon Baptist Church or Hospice of Noble County.

Craig Yoder

SHIPSHEWANA — Craig L. Yoder, 44, died at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 6, 2003, at Elkhart General Hospital of cancer.

He had worked for Pete's Construction and later worked for seven years at Jayco Inc. Plant 51 North. He lived in LaGrange County all his life. He served on the board of elders for Townline Mennonite Church. He had also been a member of Emma Mennonite Church. He enjoyed raising and racing trotting breed horses.

He was born in LaGrange Jan. 18, 1959, to Oscar S. and Esther G. (Hooley) Yoder.

He married Joanna Schrock Aug. 25, 1996, at Townline Mennonite Church, Shipshewana. She survives.

Also surviving are twin sons, Ethan and Landon Yoder, at home; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Donna and David Stutzman of Shipshewana, Mabel and Ken Classen of Atmore, Ala., and Linda and Lowell Freed of LaGrange.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Townline Mennonite Church, Shipshewana, with the Revs. Menno Mullett and Merlin Miller officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Calling will be Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Townline Mennonite Church, Shipshewana.

Memorials are to Gospel for Asia.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Marjorie Winebrenner

COLUMBIA CITY — Marjorie L. Winebrenner, 89, died at 8:26 a.m. Friday, March 7, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Columbia City.

She was the widow of Alvin R. Winebrenner of Noble Township near Merriam. Among her survivors are a son and daughter-in-law, Loren and Toni Winebrenner; and a daughter, Linda Winebrenner, all of rural Albion.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco. Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Marjorie Winebrenner

MERRIAM — Marjorie L. Winebrenner, 89, of Noble Township, died Friday, March 7, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor, Columbia City. She had been in declining health for some time, and had been seriously ill since January, when she entered the nursing home.

Mrs. Winebrenner

Mrs. Winebrenner was born Nov. 11, 1913, in Garrett to Alfred M. and Lettie (McGuire) Geiger. She spent her formative years in Green Township in Noble County, and was educated at the former Charter Oak School and at Churubusco High School.

On Jan. 1, 1935, she was married to Alvin R. Winebrenner at the old Merriam Christian Chapel parsonage, and spent most of her married life on the family farm, north of Merriam.

Always active as a farm wife, she assisted her husband with their dairy operation. Following Mr. Winebrenner's death on Feb. 9, 1991, Mrs. Winebrenner continued milking at the operation until she retired at the age of 82. She was honored by the Noble County Holstein Association for being the oldest person active in milking.

She was a member of Merriam Christian Chapel.

Surviving are a daughter, Linda Winebrenner of rural Albion; a son and daughter-in-law, Loren and Toni Winebrenner of rural Albion; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Larry Lee Winebrenner, on Feb. 22, 1995, and two sisters, Leah Gallagher and Lois Harrold.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Merrian Christian Chapel, with Pastor Terry L. Zolman officiating. Calling is Sunday from 2 to 7 p.m. at the church, or one hour prior to services.

Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Chaney Combs

KENDALLVILLE — Chaney W. Combs, 3 days, died Thursday, March 6, 2003, at St. Vincent's Hospital, Indianapolis.

He was born March 3, 2003, at St. Vincent's Hospital to Robert "Bobby" Combs and Heidi Nichole Moore, both of Kendallville. They survive.

Also surviving are a sister, Laina Alice Combs of Kendallville; a brother, Weston Reed Combs of Kendallville; paternal grandparents, Robert J. and Darlene Combs Sr. of Wolcottville and Parma and Edward Bolen of LaGrange; maternal grandparents, David and Tammy Moore of Avilla and Julie and Chris Marzion of Kendallville; paternal great-grandfather, John Reed of Hueysville, Ky.; and maternal great-grandfather, William Hart Sr. of Avilla.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Monday at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville. Calling will be two hours before services.

Burial will be in Rehobeth Cemetery, Albion.

Memorials are to Legacy of Life, a division of the American Heart Association.

Glen Holcomb

LAGRANGE — Glen A. Holcomb, 62, of Sun City Center, Fla., and formerly of LaGrange, died at home on Thursday, March 6, 2003.

Mr. Holcomb was born March 4, 1941, in LaGrange to Lester M. and Edith M. (Krontz) Holcomb. His mother survives in Kendallville.

He was retired from Reeves Southeastern Corp. He left LaGrange in 1971 to move to Florida.

He was married to Dee M. (Bachman) Holcomb. She survives.

He was a member of American Legion Post No. 148, Riverview, Fla.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Tammy and David Kimpland of Land of Lakes, Fla.; a son, Yale A. Holcomb of Indianapolis; and two grandchildren, Mindy and Andrew Kimpland.

He was preceded in death by a brother and sister, Howard R. Holcomb and Betty Combs.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange. Military rites will be performed by members of LaGrange American Legion Post No. 215. A lunch will follow services at First United Methodist Church, LaGrange. There will be no calling.

Memorials are to Life Path Hospice, 3010 W. Azzel St., Tampa, Fla., 33609.

Alvin Murphy

ALBION — Services are pending at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion for Alvin R. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy died Friday, March 7, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 9 Kendallville, Indiana

Williams spread compassion

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

AUBURN — Not once in the short four weeks between a diagnosis of cancer and her death did E. Jane Williams express a fear of death.

Mrs. Williams

Mrs. Williams died Friday, Feb. 28, at the age of 66.

"I still can't believe she is gone," said her husband of 38 years, the Rev. O. Dale Williams.

"She was a strong Christian and we are people of faith," the Rev. Williams said. "My last words to her were 'I will see you later' — and I firmly believe that I will."

Born in East Rainelle, W.Va., Mrs. Williams attended Anderson College, where she dated the best friend of the Rev. Williams, who also was a student. His friend "told me how nice she was, so I married her," the Rev. Williams joked.

For some years, Mrs. Williams taught public school. She had two sons, Anthony Sean of LaPorte and Christopher Jon of Anderson. The family came to Auburn in 1965 when the Rev. Williams was called to pastor the Auburn Church of God.

The Rev. Williams said there were other callings to other communities and his family left in 1969, but when he semi-retired in 1990 he and his wife returned to Auburn, which they greatly liked.

Mrs. Williams loved writing poetry and singing and she was a published author.

"Her poetry was her best talent, but music wasn't far behind," her husband said. She participated in numerous church choirs, was a singer in the DeKalb Oratorio Chorus and had an avid interest in genealogy.

In addition to her career in teaching she was a librarian. After returning to Auburn she enjoyed a part-time job at Eckhart Public Library, where she was head of technical services, preparing materials for circulation.

At the library, she worked in a small room with employee Annie Bruns.

"Jane was a little, tiny person who was 99 percent heart and a perfectionist in the good way," Bruns said. "She led her volunteer workers with faith and confidence and made you feel important."

Bruns noted that Mrs. Williams was "surrogate grandmother, aunt, mother or mentor" for a number of young women, some who came home only for a day so they could attend Mrs. Williams' funeral.

Library director Janelle Graber said Mrs. Williams was considered the "library laureate" for her poetry. (See the poem written by Mrs. Williams elsewhere on this page) "She worked wonderfully with the volunteers and was a loyal friend to the library staff," Graber said. "Her passing is a tremendous loss."

Co-worker and volunteer Ellen Bates said that while Mrs. Williams was very short in stature, she exuded authority and confidence.

"I am tall and I towered over her, and one day I told her she should have been in the Army, that she would have made a good sergeant," Bates said. It wasn't long before Mrs. Williams was sporting an Army hat with sergeant stripes, she said, and became lovingly referred to as "Sarge."

"Her caring and her co
passion can't be emphasiz
too much. She would alwa
remember us at holidays and
special occasions with speci
little gifts — often wi
poems," Bates said. "We all a
really going to miss her."

The Library

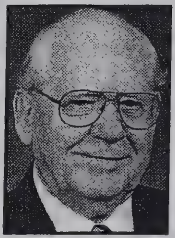
I pause briefly
It matters not – her outside
form –
Stone, glass, marble hold
Spell, for me.
But once inside, she surrounds me
With enclosing arms
For there, within – some
centuries old
Some recent, bright
Are wisdom, knowledge,
Fact and fiction,
Inventions, new.
Only my fixed time
Prevents me from sating m
self
At each and every visit.
So great, the quantity
I'm overcome by my appetit
To indulge.
I come away – my concept
stretched
For she never fails
To meet my expectations.
And I return again, and
again,
As tho' a besotted lover,
To her opening doors.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 9
Kendallville, Indiana

Oris 'Lefty' Martin left a legacy of determination

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

SYRACUSE — David Martin owns a special baseball. It's the game ball, inscribed by all the players, for Purdue's 1935 win over Notre Dame when his father, left-hander Oris "Lefty" Martin, a sophomore, pitched his first full game.


Mr. Martin

Even after his baseball-playing days were over, Lefty, who died Monday at the age of 88, remained an avid Purdue fan, coach and sponsor of Little League teams.

While Lefty's father worked on the railroad, his mother was a schoolteacher, and according to David, "She was of the WCTU (Women's Christian Temperance Union) bent." He says it was probably from his mother that Lefty picked up the drive for excellence.

Lefty was always a self-employed entrepreneur, active in his community and always looking for new opportunities.

Lefty passed that determination on to his children and grandchildren. His youngest grandson, Bill Martin, describes his grandfather as having a "good kind of stubbornness, very ambitious, an interesting guy, who seemed to have connections everywhere."

Lefty wanted his family to succeed in life, no matter what kind of work they chose. He believed education gave people more choices and more opportunities.

"It was very important to him that we 'made it.' He wanted us to see what's out there," Bill said, and "not go through life feeling like we just 'settled.'" When 22-year-old Bill talked of going into the military after high school, Grandpa Martin made it clear he wanted him to go to college first. Bill isn't clear yet what he "wants to do when I grow up," he said, but is majoring in business for now. Grandpa Martin would be proud.

While his grandpa's love was baseball, Bill said, "I am more of a soccer guy."

Jennifer Light, Lefty's granddaughter, is a Wesleyan pastor's wife in Silver Lake. She echoed Bill's assessment of their grandfather. "He was very proud of the Martin name and heritage, and it was important for him to find some 'Martin' in us."

Bill said while all families have trouble communicating at times, his grandfather made a point of keeping in touch with his grandchildren. While he was away at college, Bill's grandfather wrote to him, telling about his own experiences and trying to impart his wisdom. Bill said he still has all those letters.

His family told a humorous story of Lefty's youth. As a 10-year-old, his 4-H sweet potato project took first place at the local and state fairs. Ten years later, he was named Knox County's "Most Healthy Boy." When he beat out all of Indiana's 92 county competitors, he won a trip to the Chicago World's Fair in 1933. At the national level, he tied for first against the rival from Nebraska. The judges checked them again, and decided to give the prize to the guy from Nebraska. It turned out Lefty had a slight flaw — he had 33 teeth instead of the normal 32.

THE NEWS SUN

MARCH - Kendallville, Indiana

9

This obituary is being republished with information about calling.

Majorie Winebrenner

Mrs. Winebrenner

MERRIAM — Marjorie L. Winebrenner, 89, of Noble Township, died Friday, March 7, 2003, at 8:26 a.m. in Miller's Merry Manor, Columbia City. She had been in declining health for some time, and had been seriously ill since January, when she entered the nursing home.

Mrs. Winebrenner was born Nov. 11, 1913, in Garrett to Alfred M. and Lettie (McGuire) Geiger. She spent her formative years in Green Township in Noble County, and was educated at the former Charter Oak School and at Churubusco High School.

On Jan. 1, 1935, she married Alvin R. Winebrenner at the old Merriam Christian Chapel parsonage, and spent most of her married life on the family farm, north of Merriam.

Always active as a farm wife, she assisted her husband with their dairy operation. Following Mr. Winebrenner's death on Feb. 9, 1991, Mrs. Winebrenner continued milking at the operation until she retired at the age of 82. She was honored by the Noble County Holstein Association for being the oldest person active in milking.

She was a member of Merriam Christian Chapel.

Surviving are a daughter, Linda Winebrenner of rural Albion; a son and daughter-in-law, Loren and Toni Winebrenner of rural Albion; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Larry Lee Winebrenner, on Feb. 22, 1995, and two sisters, Leah Gallagher and Lois Harrold.

Services will be Monday at 10:30 a.m. at Merrian Christian Chapel, with Pastor Terry L. Zolman officiating. Interment will be in the Christian Chapel Cemetery at Merriam.

Calling is today from 2 to 7 p.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, or Monday one hour prior to services at the church.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Robert Eckman

COLUMBUS, Ind. — Robert Dale "Bob" Eckman, 72, died Saturday, March 8, 2003, at 4 a.m. at his residence.

Mr. Eckman, a 1960 graduate of Tri-State University in Angola, was the director of finance for Cummins, retiring in 1996 after 31 years of service.

He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean conflict. He was a volunteer at Columbus Regional Hospital, a former member and past treasurer of the Columbus Arts Guild and a charter member of the Electronic Data Processing Auditors Association.

He was born Dec. 7, 1930, in South Bend to Herbert W. and Margaret S. (McCullough) Eckman.

He married Norma Pabst on Nov. 28, 1952, in Paris, France. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Marlene Sloat of Fort Wayne; two grandchildren, Christina Sloat of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Daniel Sloat of Fort Wayne; and a brother, Herbert "Bill" Eckman of West Unity, Ohio.

He was preceded in death by a sister, June M. Herber.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Myers Funeral Service, Reed and Jewell Chapel, Columbus, with the Rev. Nan Chizmar officiating. Cremation will be at The Columbus Crematory with inurnment at a later date in West Jamestown Cemetery of Fremont.

Calling is Monday from 4 to 8 p.m. and Tuesday from 9 to 10 a.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Hospice of South-Central Indiana and the Columbus Regional Hospital Foundation.

Phillip Schuler

ANGOLA — Phillip Schuler, 56, of Lake James, died Friday, March 7, 2003, at 11:43 p.m. at Cameron Memorial Hospital in Angola.

Mr. Schuler was a maintenance manager at Cardinal Glass Industries in Fremont and formerly worked at Moore Business Forms in Angola. He also was a supply sergeant in the Army Reserve at Fort Knox, Ky., during the Vietnam War.

He was a member and head elder at Peace Lutheran Church and sang in the choir.

He was born Jan. 5, 1947, in Milwaukee, Wis., to Frank Xavier Schuler and Mary T. (Kribisch) Schuler. Both parents preceded him in death.

He married Norma L. Terron on Aug. 5, 1980, in Whiting. She survives in Angola.

Also surviving are a son, André Schuler of Angola; a daughter, Maritza Schuler of Angola; two brothers, Thomas Schuler of Milwaukee and James Schuler of Somonauk, Ill.; and a granddaughter, Amayah Armstrong of Angola.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at Peace Lutheran Church, 355 E. S.R. 120, Fremont. The Rev. Wayne C. Berkesch, pastor of the church, will officiate. Burial will be in West Jamestown Cemetery of Fremont.

Calling is Monday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 9 at Johnson-Klink Funeral Home, 108 S. West St., Angola.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association and Peace Lutheran Church.

Alvin Murphy

ALBION — Alvin R. Murphy, 64, died Friday, March 7, 2003, at 5:15 p.m. at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

A lifetime Albion resident, Mr. Murphy had worked on the loading dock for Starcraft in Topeka since 1973. He was an avid stock car racing fan.

He was born Oct. 30, 1938, in Kendallville to Floyd R. and Opal A. (Bowen) Murphy. Both parents preceded him in death.

Surviving are a brother and sister-in-law, Freedom "Murph" and Rita Murphy of Albion; and two sisters and a brother-in-law, Marilyn Smith of Churubusco and Patricia and Delbert Uhl of Albion.

A half-brother, Eldon Kurrie, preceded him in death.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in Brazzell Funeral Home, 209 E. Main St., Albion. The Rev. David Earlewine of the Albion Wesleyan Church will officiate. Burial will be in Sweet Cemetery in Albion.

Calling is Monday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorials are to Noble County Hospice.

Jim Zolman

WATERLOO — Jim L. Zolman, 65, died Saturday, March 8, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Zolman was an Disabled American Veteran and served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean conflict.

He was born Aug. 17, 1937, in Auburn to Wilbert L. and Norma M. (Bearss) Zolman. Both parents preceded him in death.

His wife, Shelby J. Daniels, survives in Waterloo.

Also surviving are three sons, Mark E. Zolman and Jim L. Zolman Jr., both of Garrett, and Brian L. Zolman of South Bend; two stepsons and a stepdaughter-in-law, Russell W. and Mary Daniels and Dennie L. Daniels, all of Waterloo; four grandchildren, a stepgranddaughter and two greatgrandchildren.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with the Rev. Rodney Hall officiating. Burial will be in Eddy Cemetery of Hamilton.

Calling is Monday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

Send condolences to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 9 Kendallville, Indiana

Helen Lytle enjoyed being involved in communit

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

FREMONT — Helen Lytle loved people.

"She was good to everybody," said Mrs. Lytle's brother, Edward Brown of Auburn.

Helen J. Lytle, 81, died Sunday, March 2, at Community Health Center of Branch County in Coldwater, Mich. She was retired from Acorn Products in Quincy, Mich. She also worked at Maple Lawn Medical Care Facility in Coldwater. She graduated from Fremont High School in 1940.

Mrs. Lytle was born in Steuben County May 16, 1921, to Ray and Delilah (Hulse) Brown. She married Charlie B. McCurley in 1941. He died in 1985. She then married Wilbur Lytle Aug. 30, 1994, in Fremont. He survives.

Mrs. Lytle was a familiar face in many groups and organizations throughout the area. She was a member of Jamestown Church and the Ladies Aid. She was a member of the Age and Beauty Home Economics Club and the Orland American Legion Post 423 Ladies Auxiliary.

"She was in a lot of groups," said Brown. "Her second husband was a legionnaire, which is why she was in the auxiliary. She had a lot of friends in the other groups."

She enjoyed quilting, sewing and helping others.

"She'd do anything for you if she could," said Brown.

Also surviving are a st
daughter; four stepsons; sev
nieces and nephews; two sist
Marie Crooks of Hunterto
and Maxine Rome of Colum
City; a brother, Edward Bro
of Auburn; and a sister-in-la
Martha Brown of Fremont.

Preceding her in death b
sides her first husband were
brother, Herbert Brown; a
three sisters, Pauline Watte
Esther Boise and Edith Brow

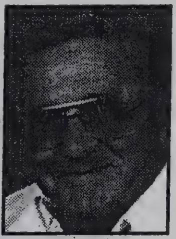
Memorials are to th
Jamestown Church in Fremon

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 10
Kendallville, Indiana

Owen Hague

ALBION — Owen Thomas "Tom" Hague, 80, died at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana, Fort Wayne.

He was road construction foreman for Dailey Asphalt for 40 years and was a lifetime resident of Noble County. He enjoyed fishing, gardening, cooking, cutting wood, watching sports and being with his grandchildren.


Mr. Hague

He was born in Rome City Aug. 14, 1922, to John Thomas and Agnes (Rimmel) Hague.

He married Lavon Simon March 17, 1946. She died Oct. 24, 1982.

Surviving are six sons and three daughters-in-law, David and Valerie Hague of Albion, Larry Duane Hague of Albion, William Owen Hague of Homer, Alaska, Timothy Allen Hague of Terre Haute, Kent Donald and Susan Hague of Fort Wayne, and Daniel Jay and Susan Hague of Albion; five daughters and four sons-in-law, Susan Lavon and James Balthrop of College Station, Texas, Christine Marie and Bert Foster of Albion, Diane Elaine and Joseph Robinson of Albion, Debra Ellen Robinson of Albion and Amy Beth and Brent Dreibelbis of Churubusco; several grandchildren, Thomas, Michelle, Benjamin, Hide and Kris Hague, Theresa and Jeremy Mann, Khristopher Perkins, Lucy and Jimmy Balthrop, Laura and John Hague, Seth, Matthew, Jesica and Harold Robinson, Thaddaeus Foster, Madeleine Dreibelbis, Courtney Hague, and Stephanie and Andy Dance; four great-grandchildren, Justin, Brittany and Kayla Hague and Joshua Mann; one brother, Warren Hague of Dallas, Texas; and one sister, Mary Huelsenbeck of Kendallville.

Two brothers, William and John, preceded him in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with Pastor Ann Marshall officiating. Burial will be in Sweet Cemetery, Albion.

Calling will be Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. and one hour before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana or Mt. Pleasant Lutheran Church.

Emma Warren

MILFORD — Emma B. "Dolly" Warren, 82, died Saturday, March 8, 2003, at Lakeland Rehabilitation Center, Milford.

She owned and operated Poor Doll's Bait and Doll Shop on Lake Wawasee for 16 years and was a homemaker.

She was born in Wells County.

Surviving are a son, Jerry Myers of Cromwell; a stepdaughter, Marilyn Henderson of Fort Wayne; nine grandchildren; nine stepgrandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her first husband, Roy Myers, and her second husband, Chester Warren Jr., who died in 1999; and a son, Royce Myers.

Services will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel, Syracuse. Burial will be in Byers Cemetery, Syracuse.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Milford Christian Church.

Helen Vaughan

KENDALLVILLE — Helen L. McDowell Vaughan, 90, died at 1:55 p.m. Saturday, March 8, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home. She had been a resident there since October 2001. She had moved to Kendallville from Delphi, Ind., to be near her daughter.

She was a homemaker and 1929 graduate of Delphi High School in Carroll County. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church and Psi Iota Xi Sorority. She enjoyed playing bridge and was in several card clubs.

She was born near Delphi Oct. 14, 1912, to William and Lula (Mellinger) McDowell.

She married Harold A. Vaughan Aug. 5, 1939, in Delphi. He died Feb. 11, 1997.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, William and Bev Vaughan of Bloomington; a daughter and son-in-law, Sara and Rex Elliott of Rome City; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Two brothers and two sisters preceded her in death.

Graveside services will be Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at Morning Heights Cemetery, Delphi, with the Rev. Ellis Gasser officiating.

Memorials are to Delphi First Presbyterian Church or Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville.

Abbott Funeral Home in Delphi is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 10
Kendallville, Indiana

Margaret Wade

CROMWELL — Margaret K. Wade, 90, died at 1:55 p.m. Thursday, March 6, 2003, at Elkhart General Hospital after a month-long illness.

She lived in Noble County most of her life. She had worked as a cook in the Ligonier school system, at Wirk Garment in Ligonier and at Chore-Time in Milford, retiring in 1982. She was a member of Stone's Hill Community Church. She enjoyed playing cards, gardening and sewing.

Mrs. Wade

She was born in Ligonier Aug. 12, 1912, to Lee and Lisa May (Locke) Hewitt.

She married Erwin Wade in 1930 in Auburn. He died in 1974.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Jerry and Faith Wade of Belcamp, Md.; a son-in-law, Rue Dee Marker of Bremen; a granddaughter, Kimberly Taylor of Wakarusa; two great-grandchildren, Ambria and Maliq Taylor of Wakarusa; and a sister, Joan Robbins of Portland.

Preceding her in death was a daughter, Judy K. Marker, in June 2000; four brothers; and one sister.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, with the Rev. Charlie Arms officiating. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Douglas Koontz

KENDALLVILLE — Douglas G. Koontz, 53, died Saturday, March 8, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a truck driver for SuperValu for 15 years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Vietnam conflict. He was a member of American Legion Post 499. He was a devoted father who enjoyed fishing and camping.

Mr. Koontz

Survivors include his ex-wife and lifelong friend, Bonnie J. Koontz; two daughters, Audrey and Camille Koontz, both of Kendallville; his father and stepmother, Ralph and Gen Koontz of Fort Wayne; a sister and brother-in-law, Lynn and Roger Gardner of Plant City, Fla.; five nieces; and nine nephews.

Services will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, 1320 E. Dupont Road. Burial will be in Huntertown Cemetery with military rites by American Legion Post 499.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. and one hour before services at the funeral home.

Edith Knecht

ALBION — Edith P. Knecht, 77, died Sunday, March 9, 2003, at home.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Fort Wayne and lived in Bippus before moving to Albion.

Surviving are her husband, Arnold D.; a daughter, Karen Wenger of New Haven; a sister, Alice Fial of Wabash; two grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Robin V.

Services will be Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at St. John's United Church of Christ, Bippus. Burial will be in St. John's Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Deal-Robbins & Van Gilder Huntington Chapel and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the church.

Condolences may be e-mailed to drvgfuneral@skyenet.net.

Sidney Nelson

ANGOLA — Sidney Edward Nelson, 78, died Monday, March 10, 2003, at the Laurels of DeKalb in Butler.

Mr. Nelson was born July 1, 1924, in LaGrange, to Sidney and Mary (Temple) Nelson. He had lived in Angola for 29 years.

He married Norma E. (Coney) Wisel on Nov. 10, 1973. She survives.

He retired from the U.S. Navy as a first class chief engineman, and was also retired from the Angola Waste Water Treatment Plant.

He was a member of the Angola Masonic Lodge No. 236, Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Wayne, Mizpah Shrine Temple, Angola Moose Lodge, Angola American Legion Post No. 31, and a life member of the George Anspaugh Post V.F.W. in Angola. He was an avid bowler and a graduate of Salem Center High School.

Also surviving are two stepsons and stepdaughters-in-law, Leroy and Irene Wisel of Fremont and Rick and June Wisel of White Pigeon, Mich.; a stepdaughter and stepson-in-law, Loretta and Larry Smart of Fremont; a sister in White Pigeon and a stepmother in LaGrange; six grandchildren and 15 stepgreat-grandchildren.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield and Pastor Dwight Gosser officiating. Calling is from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday. A Moose service will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, conducted by members of the Angola Moose Lodge. A Masonic service will follow, conducted by members of the Angola Masonic Lodge.

Burial will be in Jamestown Cemetery, Steuben County, with military services conducted by members of Angola American Legion Post No. 31.

Gladys Krotzer

ROME CITY — Gladys Krotzer, 80, died at 3:20 p.m. Monday, March 10, 2003, at her home.

Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville. Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Dale Sloffer

CHURUBUSCO — Dale A. Sloffer, 73, died Monday, March 10, 2003, at his home. He had been in declining health for some time, but his death was unexpected.

Surviving relatives include his wife of 52 years, Betty (McBride) Sloffer.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco. Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Charles Shoemaker

AVILLA — Charles E. Shoemaker, 71, died at 11:03 p.m. March 10, 2003, in the emergency room at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Services are pending at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Carolyn Christian** were held Saturday at 11 a.m. at Bethel Christian Baptist Church, with the Rev. Jamie Owens and Shawn Shepherd officiating. Burial was at Orange Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Larry DeRossett, Garry DeRossett, Derek DeRossett, Joel DeRossett, Cole DeRossett, Mike Christian, Tony Christian and Tim Christian.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Chaney Warner Combs** were held Monday at 2 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Jim Toole officiating. Burial was at Rehoboth Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Marion Combs and Mike Hart.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Eileen L. Schrock** were held Saturday at 10 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville, with Pastor Earl Rose Jr. officiating. Burial was at Woodland Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Trent Mynhier, Troy Mynhier, Steven Mynhier, Adam Mynhier, Avery Mynhier and Matt Schaeffer.

Betty Rifenburg

STURGIS, Mich. — Betty Jane Rifenburg, 79, died Sunday, March 9, 2003, at home following a brief illness.

Mrs. Rifenburg was born Jan. 26, 1924, in Sturgis, to William and Mabel (Chrystler) Weirich.

She was a lifelong Sturgis resident. On April 25, 1942, she married L. Dale Rifenburg in Sturgis.

She retired in 1985 from Sturgis Newport Business Forms after 28 years of employment. She had also been employed by M & R Laboratories and McClellan's Dime Store, both in Sturgis. She was also a homemaker.

She was a graduate of Sturgis High School with the class of 1942. She enjoyed dancing and playing cards, especially pinochle. Her greatest love was taking care of her family.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Dale; a daughter and son-in-law, Gayle and Skook Wright of Howe; a son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Vickie Rifenburg of Hudson; four grandchildren, Gary Ash of Henderson, Ky., Kasey Wright of Muskegon, Jason Rifenburg of Auburn and Adam Rifenburg of Fort Wayne; two great-grandchildren, Leanza Ash and Karis Hall; a brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Rosemary Weirich of Sturgis; a sister, Phyllis Shipe of Sturgis; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Dorothy Shutes.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday at the Sturgis Church of Christ, with Pastor Steven Ruger of Sturgis Church of Christ and Pastor Gary Rifenburg of Calvary Fellowship Church, Stroh, officiating. Calling is from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. today at Hackman-Foglesong Funeral Home, Sturgis.

Burial will be in Burr Oak Cemetery, Burr Oak, Mich.

Memorials are to Sturgis Church of Christ or Hospice of Sturgis.

Charles Shoemaker Sr.

AVILLA — Charles E. Shoemaker Sr., 71, died at 11:03 p.m. Monday, March 10, 2003, at the emergency room at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

He was a truck driver and retired from CMW in Kendallville. He was currently working for PTI in Garrett. He had retired from the U.S. Navy Seabees as an EOC with 42 years of service. He had lived in the Avilla community for 31 years.

He was a 1950 graduate of Elmhurst High School in Fort Wayne. He was a member of the National Model Railroader Association and enjoyed building model railroads. He was also a member of American Legion Post 86 and Moose Lodge 1301, both in Kendallville, and the U.E.T. Scuba Club of Fort Wayne.

He was born in Defiance, Ohio, Sept. 27, 1931, to Irvin and Carma (Treaster) Shoemaker.

He married Kay Huth Feb. 14, 1971, in Wolcottville. She survives.

Mr. Shoemaker

Also surviving are two daughters and one son-in-law, Sandra Kay and Robert Dean of Kendallville and Barbara J. Emery of Hudson; three sons, Tracey Fogelson and Terry Fogelson, both of Avilla, and Charles Shoemaker Jr. of LaOtto; five grandchildren, Donna Slone, Kay Oakes, Becky Shoemaker, Robert E. Dean Jr. and Anson Shoemaker; two great-grandchildren, Austin Slone and Gabriel Oakes; and a brother and sister-in-law, Terry and Mary Shoemaker of Fort Wayne.

Preceding him in death were a son, Steven; and two brothers, Jerry and Larry Shoemaker.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with Pastor Dean Bearman officiating. Burial will be in the Hicksville Cemetery, Hicksville, Ohio.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

Dale Sloffer

CHURUBUSCO — Dale A. Sloffer, 73, well-known Allen County farmer and community leader, died Monday, March 10, 2003, at his home. He had been in declining health for some time, but his death was unexpected.

He graduated from Huntertown High School in 1947. He was a farmer in Eel River Township until his retirement in 1984. He and his wife moved to their present home in Churubusco in 1994. He drove a school bus for Northwest Allen County Schools for 15 years, served two terms as Eel River Township trustee, and was a member of the Huntertown Lions Club. He had been on the board of directors for Eel River Cemetery and was a member of Ari Church of God.

He was born in Allen County April 30, 1929, to Glenn and Myrtle (Zinn) Sloffer.

He married Betty McBride May 7, 1950, in Ari. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Sharon Sloffer of Churubusco; three daughters and sons-in-law, Kathy and Harry Bingham of Churubusco, Leanne and Bob Wagner of LaOtto and Lynette and Kem Zolman of Syracuse; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Beulah and Jimmie Allman of Churubusco and Ruth and David Neuhouser of Upland; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death was a daughter, Gailyn Sloffer, in 1956; a sister, Irene Magner, in 1983; and a brother, Everett W. Sloffer, in 1995.

Services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Carroll McNutt, pastor of Ari Church of God, officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery south of Churubusco.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Ari Church of God or Parkview Home Health & Hospice of Columbia City.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

MARCH 12 Kendallville, Indiana

Gladys Krotzer

ROME CITY — Gladys May Krotzer, 80, died Monday, March 10, 2003, at her apartment at Sylvan Manor after a five-week illness.

Mrs. Krotzer

She was a homemaker and for many years helped her husband run Krotzer's Berry Farm north of South Milford where she lived for more than 40 years. She was a member of Trinity Church United Methodist in Kendallville and South Milford United Methodist Church. She was a Girl Scout leader. At Sylvan Manor she was active in the Bible study group and at bingo games.

She was born in Bremen July 23, 1922, to Seymour and Myrtle (Sparrow) Heltzel.

She married John Charles Krotzer Dec. 22, 1940, in Cosperville. He died May 7, 1999.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Fern Wentworth of Wawaka, Nancy and Tom Mulenkamp of Rockford, Ohio, and Connie and Richard Glass of Dallas Lake, Wolcottville; a son, Thomas Krotzer of Wawaka; a brother and sister-in-law, Floyd and Vivian Heltzel of Rome City; 14 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were seven brothers and four sisters.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Mike McKinney officiating. Burial will be at Brushy Prairie Cemetery north of South Milford in LaGrange County.

Calling will be today from 3 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Noble Hospice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Howard Kourt

SOUTH WHITLEY — Howard R. Kourt, 86, died early Monday, March 10, 2003, at his residence.

He lived in Whitley County until moving to New Mexico where he lived for 18 years. He returned to Whitley County in 1991, and lived in South Whitley the past four years. He worked as a general farmer before retiring. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Columbia City.

He was born in Columbia Township, Whitley County, July 7, 1916, to Henry and Rosetta (Romey) Kourt.

He married Lurabelle M. Marrs Sept. 3, 1960, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Columbia City. She preceded him in death.

Surviving are a stepson, Stephen Hollopeter of Fort Wayne; a son-in-law, Neal Evard of Columbia City; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death was a daughter, Ruth Annette Evard.

Services will be Friday at 1 p.m. at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City, with Pastor Tony Evard officiating. Burial will be at Eberhard Lutheran Cemetery.

Calling will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.demoney-grimes.com.

Clifford Deutsch

Clifford Deutsch, 91, died at 2:50 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2003 at Miller's Merry Manor in Columbia City, where he had been a resident since December 2001.

He was born May 17, 1911, in Larwill, a son of Frank E. and Clara Belle (Gebert) Deutsch. In 1914 his family moved to a farm near New Haven and in 1921 to Collins. He completed his elementary education at Collins School and graduated from Columbia City High School in 1929. He was a member of the CCHS baseball team. After completing his education, he engaged in farming as an onion grower.

He was united in marriage to Velma L. "Bonnie" Judd on October 8, 1932. They made their home in Collins until 1942 when they moved to Columbia City. In 1947 they moved to Columbia Township. Mrs. Deutsch died March 22, 1980.

In 1941 he began his employment at Weatherhead, retiring in 1973 with 32 years of service.

On September 19, 1981, he was united in marriage to Ruby M. (Downing) Hilligoss. They made their home in Columbia Township until he became a resident of Miller's Merry Manor.

Mr. Deutsch was a member of Oak Grove Church of God and the church brotherhood, Whitley County Farm Bureau, Weatherhead Pioneer Club, Weatherhead Retirees Club and U.A.W. #1407.

He is survived by his wife, Ruby, a resident at the United Methodist Home in Warren; two sons, Gary (Emily) Deutsch and Donald (Nancy) Deutsch; two daughters, Nancy (Ed) Line and Janice (Charles) Lowe, all of Columbia City; two step-sons, Rev. Larry Harvey of Marion and Dr. Walter Harvey of Denton, Texas; a step-daughter, Wanda (Darryl) Lehnus of Waco, Texas; three sisters, Virginia Owen of Albion, Kathryn Nace and Isabelle Maggart, both of Columbia City; eight grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; 10 step-grandchildren; and eight step-great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and first wife, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Gerald, Virgil and Lloyd Deutsch; and two sisters, Mabel Henderson and Crystal Shively.

Services were held Tuesday, March 11, 2003, at Smith & Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with Rev. Mark Goeglein, pastor of Oak Grove Church of God, officiating. The burial was in Oak Grove Cemetery.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to Oak Grove Church of God or Humane Society of Whitley County.

Virgil Leazier

KENDALLVILLE – Virgil E. Leazier, 91, died Thursday, March 6, 2003, at his daughter's home.

He worked for Allen County Motors in Fort Wayne for 45 years. He lived in the Albion and Kendallville areas for 5 1/2 years. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army. He was a member of Disabled American Veterans and American Legion Post #381 in Rome City.

He was born in Fort Wayne January 12, 1919, to George E. and Mary (Driver) Leazier.

He married Eloise E. Olinger May 28, 1938, in Fort Wayne. She died January 13, 1994.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Cynthia and Alan Biddle of Kendallville.

Services were held Monday, March 10, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion, with the Rev. Ron Stratman of Beacon Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in the Orange Township Cemetery, Rome City.

Memorials are to Beacon Baptist Church or Hospice of Noble County.

Marjorie Winebrenner

MERRIAM – Marjorie L. Winebrenner, 89, of Noble Township, died Friday, March 7, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor, Columbia City. She had been in declining health for some time, and had been seriously ill since January, when she entered the nursing home.

Mrs. Winebrenner was born November 11, 1913, in Garrett to Alfred M. and Lettie (McGuire) Geiger. She spent her formative years in Green Township in Noble County and was educated at the former Charter Oak School and at Churubusco High School.

On January 1, 1935, she was married to Alvin R. Winebrenner at the old Merriam Christian Chapel parsonage and spent most of her married life on the family farm, north of Merriam.

Always active as a farm wife, she assisted her husband with their dairy operation. Following Mr. Winebrenner's death on February 9, 1991, Mrs. Winebrenner continued milking at the operation until she retired at the age of 82. She was honored by the Noble County Holstein Association for being the oldest person active in milking.

She was a member of Merriam Christian Chapel.

Surviving are a daughter, Linda Winebrenner of rural Albion; a son and daughter-in-law, Loren and Toni Winebrenner of rural Albion; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Larry Lee Winebrenner, on February 22, 1995, and two sisters, Leah Gallagher and Lois Harrold.

Services were held Monday, March 10, 2003, at Merriam Christian Chapel, with Pastor Terry L. Zolman officiating. Burial was in Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

Alvin Murphy

ALBION – Alvin R. Murphy, 64, died Friday, March 7, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

A lifetime Albion resident, Mr. Murphy had worked on the loading dock for Starcraft in Topeka since 1973. He was an avid stock car racing fan.

He was born October 30, 1938, in Kendallville to Floyd R. and Opal A. (Bowen) Murphy. Both parents preceded him in death.

Surviving are a brother and sister-in-law, Freedom "Murph" and Rita Murphy of Albion; and two sisters and a brother-in-law, Marilyn Smith of Churubusco and Patricia and Delbert Uhl of Albion.

A half-brother, Eldon Kurrie, preceded him in death.

Services were held Tuesday, March 10, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion. The Rev. David Earlewine of the Albion Wesleyan Church officiated. Burial was in the Sweet Cemetery, Albion.

For those who wish, memorials are to Noble County Hospice.

Eileen Schrock

LAGRANGE – Eileen L. Schrock, 75, died at 3:15 a.m. Thursday, March 6, 2003, at the home of her son James Mynhier in Wolcottville. She had been ill for over a year.

She was a homemaker and member of the Johnson Township Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. She had been a den mother for the Cub Scouts in Wolcottville for several years.

She was born in Garrett April 30, 1927, to James and Eva (Snyder) Nodine.

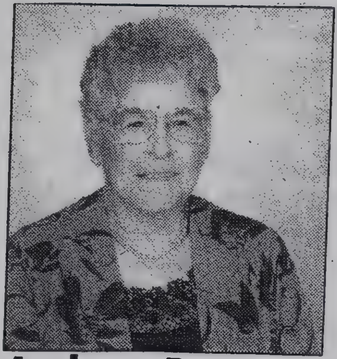
Her first husband Leonard Mynhier preceded her in death. She married Edward A. Schrock in November 1963, in LaGrange. He survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Brenda and Ronald Logan of Wolcottville; three sons and a daughter-in-law, Douglas and Diana Mynhier of Avilla, James Mynhier of Wolcottville, and Steve Mynhier of LaGrange; 14 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Betty Westrick of Wilmington, IL.

She was also preceded in death by a granddaughter, Michelle Mynhier.

Services were held Saturday, March 8, 2003, at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville, with Pastor Earl Rose Jr. of Liberty Freewill Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in Woodland Cemetery.

Memorials are to the Johnson Township Fire Department.



Audrey Frazier

COLUMBIA CITY – Audrey J. Frazier, 85, a resident of Columbia City, died at 8:58 p.m. Sunday, March 9, 2003, in the emergency room at Parkview Whitley Hospital. She had been a resident at The Oaks Living Center since February 21, 2003.

She was born June 25, 1917 in Noble County to Stephen M. and Celesta M. (Treech) Jerraid. Her formative years were spent in York Township, Noble County, where she completed her education.

Her first marriage was to Earl Busz. They made their home in Wolf Lake. Mr. Busz died in 1964.

On November 24, 1971 she was united in marriage to Roy L. Frazier. They made their home in Elkhart. Mr. Frazier died August 6, 1975.

A homemaker, she attended Lincolnway Church of Christ.

She is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Robert E. and Dolores Busz of New Providence, PA; five grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandson.

In addition to her parents and husbands, she was preceded in death by a son, Roger Busz; three brothers, Irvin, Ivan, and Orland Jerraid; and five sisters, Edna Maginity, Leda Ratcliff, Iona Hindman, Pearl Hindman and Mae Fry.

Services were held Wednesday, March 12, 2003 at Smith and Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City with Pastor Neal Noey, pastor of Lincolnway Church of Christ, officiating. Burial was in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

For those who wish, memorials are to Lincolnway Church of Christ.

Owen Hague

ALBION – Owen Thomas "Tom" Hague, 80, died at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana, Fort Wayne.

He was road construction foreman for Dailey Asphalt for 40 years and was a lifetime resident of Noble County. He enjoyed fishing, gardening, cooking, cutting wood, watching sports and being with his grandchildren.

He was born in Rome City August 14, 1922, to John Thomas and Agnes (Rimmel) Hague.

He married Lavon Simon March 17, 1946. She died October 24, 1982.

Surviving are six sons and three daughters-in-law, David and Valerie Hague of Albion, Larry Duane hague of Albion, William Owen Hague of Homer, Alaska, Timothy Allen Hague of Terre Haute, Kent Donald and Susan Hague of Fort Wayne, and Daniel Jay and Susan Hague of Albion; five daughters and four sons-in-law, Susan Lavon and James Balthrop of College Station, Texas, Christine Marie and Bert Foster of Albion, Diane Elaine and Joseph Robinson of Albion, Debra Ellen Robinson of Albion and Amy Beth and Brent Dreibelbis of Churubusco; several grandchildren, Thomas, Michelle, Benjamin, Hide, and Kris Hague, Theresa and Jeremy Mann, Khristopher Perkins, Lucy and Jimmy Balthrop, Laura and John Hague, Seth, Matthew, Jesica and Harold Robinson, Thaddaeus Foster, Madeleine Dreibelbis, Courtney Hague, and Stephanie and Andy Dance; four great-grandchildren, Justin, Brittany and Kayla Hague and Joshua Mann; one brother, Warren Hague of Dallas, Texas; and one sister, Mary Huelsenbeck of Kendallville.

Two brothers, William and John, preceded him in death.

Services were held Wednesday, March 12, 2003 at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with Pastor Ann Marshall officiating. Burial was in Sweet Cemetery, Albion.

Memorials are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana or Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church.

Virginia Pope

MIDDLEBURY — Virginia A. Pope, 78, died at 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange.

Mrs. Pope

She moved to Middlebury in 1969. She had worked at Keene Machine (now Syndicate) in Middlebury as a press operator until retiring in 1983.

She was born in South Bend March 23, 1924, to George and Hattie (Botka) Chodzinski.

She married Robert E. Pope July 17, 1954. He died Nov. 27, 1977.

Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Sharon and Larry Leonard of Middlebury; two sons, Jim Horvath of Mishawaka and George Horvath of Shipshewana; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; a brother and sister-in-law, Julius and Mike Walker of Granger; and a sister and brother-in-law, Shirley and William Raybuck of Middlebury.

Preceding her in death was a granddaughter, Gail Horvath, on Sept. 5, 1987; and a son-in-law, Angelo Watlay, in 1982.

The family will hold a private graveside memorial service. Burial will be at Grace Lawn Cemetery in Middlebury.

Calling will be today from 4 to 8 p.m. at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home.

Memorials are to Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange.

Kenneth Wilkinson

PLEASANT LAKE — Kenneth "Mike" Wilkinson, 51, died Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at his home.

He was final inspector at Metaldyne Corp. in Edon, Ohio. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He was a member of Antique Power Association, B.F. Avery Association, a former member of the Hudson Fire Department and an EMT for the fire department.

He was born in Eaton Rapids, Mich., Nov. 6, 1951, to Charles and Iva (Wonsey) Wilkerson.

He married Ann L. Carrick Oct. 6, 1978. She survives in Pleasant Lake.

Also surviving are his mother, Iva Blodgett of Fremont; a son and daughter-in-law, Jon and Laurie Wilkinson of Coldwater, Mich.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Beth and Guy Creager of Angola and Shawn and Frank Easterday of Coldwater; a sister and brother-in-law, Loretta and Virgil Harvey of Angola; and 15 grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his father, Charles Wilkinson, and stepfather, Elmo Blodgett.

Services will be Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at Weicht Funeral Home, with the Rev. Chris Cain officiating. Burial will be in Oak Grove Cemetery, Coldwater.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family in care of Ann Wilkinson.

George Coquillard Jr.

SYRACUSE — George W. Coquillard Jr., 70, died at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at his home.

He was retired from Commodore Homes in Syracuse. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean conflict. He was a member of American Legion Post 223, VFW Post 1342 in Syracuse and a lifetime bowler at Wawasee Bowl.

He was born in Elkhart County Sept. 1, 1932, to George W. Sr. and Hazel (Cowell) Coquillard.

He married Laura Newcomer March 3, 1961. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Sheryl and Rodney Bartman of Syracuse and Tammy Drang of Albion; a son, George W. Coquillard III of Syracuse; four sisters, Hazel Sawyer of Elkhart, Jessie Knafel of Ligonier, Buelah Shear of Syracuse and Shirley Borntrager of Florida; and a brother, Sam Coquillard Sr. of Syracuse.

Preceding him in death were two sons, Donald and Ronald Coquillard; and a sister.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel in Syracuse, with the Revs. Lorne McCune and Theron Hanes officiating. Burial will be in the Syracuse Cemetery.

Calling will be Monday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Syracuse Fire & EMS or Kosciusko Community Hospice and Home Care.

Eleanor Daler

BRADENTON, Fla. — Eleanor J. Daler, formerly of Fort Wayne, died March 9, 2003, at Blake Medical Center in Bradenton.

She was a financial secretary at Trinity United Methodist Church, Bradenton, and treasurer of United Methodist Women at the church.

She was born in Poe.

Her husband, Herman, preceded her in death.

Surviving are three daughters, Connie Rose of Bartlett, Tenn., Wendy Galt of Indianapolis, and Teresa Barnhart of Monroeville; three sons, David and Louis, both of Fort Wayne, and Michael of Bradenton; a brother, Vaughan Hadley of LaOtto; 12 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be Tuesday in Bradenton and at CrossPointe Community Church in Fort Wayne March 29 at 11 a.m.

Memorials are to Trinity United Methodist Church in care of Children's Ministries, 3200 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton, FL 34205.

Brown & Sons Funeral Homes in Bradenton are in charge of arrangements.

Della Randol

LAGRANGE — Della A. Randol, 85, died at 5:05 a.m. Thursday, March 13, 2003. at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

She was a homemaker. She moved from Orland to LaGrange in 1954.

She was born in Kendallville Feb. 2, 1918, to Alvin and Bessie (McCormick) Varner.

She married Richard G. Randol March 18, 1939, in Angola. He died Dec. 3, 2000.

Surviving are four daughters and two sons-in-law, Marilyn and Gene Yoder, Janice I. Randol and Lois E. Randol, all of LaGrange and Bonnie and Douglas Trovinger of Auburn; a son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Kathy D. Randol of LaGrange; a sister, Betty Elliott of Angola; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were two brothers, Alvin and William Varner.

Services will be Monday at 2 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield officiating. Burial will be in Brushy Chapel Cemetery.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 14
Kendallville, Indiana

Cody Sparks

FORT WAYNE — Cody Michael Sparks, 3 months, died Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at home.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his parents, Howard Sparks and Heather Wiseman, both of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Ciara Nicole Wiseman and Faith Anne Wiseman, both of Fort Wayne; a brother, Travis Raylee Sparks of Fort Wayne; grandparents, David and Bonnie Wilson of Fort Wayne, Susan Sparks of Columbia City and George and Marianne Elwell of Plano, Texas; and great-grandparents, Gerald and Anna Baur of Fort Wayne and Wynemia Greer of Merriam.

Graveside services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Fairfield Cemetery, Corunna.

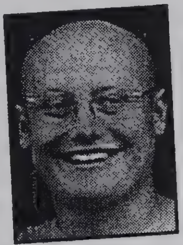
Calling will be today from 7 to 8 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Maplewood Park Funeral Home.

David Pankop

CORUNNA — David C. Pankop, 30, of Corunna, died Thursday, March 13, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn.

He was born in Auburn May 20, 1972, to Nelson and Wanda (Fender) Pankop. He married Peggy Garman Nov. 24, 1991, in Waterloo.

A graduate of DeKalb High School in 1991, he had worked the past three years at Cooper Tire in Auburn. He was a lifetime Corunna resident and a member of the Ashley Church of God.



Mr. Pankop

Surviving with his wife are three children, Phillip, Joshua and Tara, at home; his father, Nelson, of Corunna, and his mother, Wanda Fender-Brunner of Auburn; grandparents Harold Pankop of Corunna and Doris and Harvey Fairchild of West Unity, Ohio, and Martha Fender of Florida; and two brothers, Adam Pankop of Corunna and Danny Pankop of Waterloo.

Also surviving are many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Phillip, who died in 1979.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Ashley Church of God with the Rev. Dean Snyder officiating. Burial will be in Fairfield Cemetery, Corunna. Friends may call at the church on Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m.

Memorials are to the DeKalb County Cancer Society. Johnson Funeral Home, Hudson, is in charge of arrangements. Condolences to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Simon Miller

LAGRANGE — Simon W. Miller, 80, of rural LaGrange, died at 2:03 p.m. Friday, March 14, 2003, at his residence, of an apparent heart attack.

He was born March 6, 1923, in Jump River, Wis., to William D. and Rebecca (Yoder) Miller. On Oct. 7, 1948, he married Lydia L. Schrock. She died Oct. 26, 1994, and he married Katie W. Schmucker on Oct. 25, 1998. She survives.

A retired farmer and bishop with the Old Order Amish Church, he had lived in the LaGrange area since 1946.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Anna Ruth and Elmer Miller of LaGrange, and Amelia Irene and Willard Helmuth of Arthur, Ill.; three sons and daughters-in-law, Freeman S. and Lorraine Miller of Shipshewana, Daniel S. and Cheryl Miller of Dayton, Ore., and Harley S. and Lisa Miller of Sandy, Ore.; four sisters and three brothers-in-law, Amelia Garber of Blountstown, Fla.; Elizabeth and Benedict E. Yoder of Garnett, Kan., Ida and Nelson Yoder of Chouteau, Okla., and Mary Ann and Jacob J.B. Miller of LaPlata., Mo.; half-sisters Esther Yoder and her husband, Lloyd, of Dixon, Mo., Amanda Greeno of Oklahoma, and Edith Chupp and her husband, Bill, of Chouteau, Okla.; one brother and sister-in-law, John and Sarah Miller of Hickory, Ky.; 12 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

He was preceeded in death by two brothers, Daniel and Jacob, and a stepbrother, Martin Miller.

Calling is at the family home at 0750 N. C.R. 400W, LaGrange, after noon today and all day Sunday. Services will be at 9:30 a.m. Monday at the family home with Bishop John Beechy and home ministers officiating. Burial will be in Mast Cemetery, LaGrange.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury, is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 15 Kendallville, Indiana

Owen Burkholder

SHIPSHEWANA — Owen J. Burkholder, 56, of rural Shipshewana, died at 5 p.m. Thursday, March 13, 2003, at Elkhart General Hospital where he was taken after suffering a heart attack.

He was born Oct. 6, 1946, in Bremen to Joe Jr. and Fannie (Slabaugh) Burkholder. He married Susie Yoder June 19, 1969, in Shipshewana. He was a self-employed contractor.

Surviving with his wife are three daughters, Rosetta Burkholder of North Manchester, Anna Jean Burkholder of Goshen, and Amy Jo Burkholder, at home; four sons and two daughters-in-law, Gary Lee and Jennifer Burkholder of Beaverton, Ore., Joseph O. Burkholder of Everett, Wash., John and Melinda Burkholder of Berne, and Anthony Lynn Burkholder, at home; two grandchildren; four sisters and two brothers-in-law, Sylvia Chupp of Spencer, Wis., Fern and Mervin Miller of Belle Center, Ohio, Ruth Ann Burkholder of Nappanee, and Linda and Kenny Menzie of Etna Green; and three brothers and sisters-in-law, Ward and Verda Burkholder of Bremen, Earl and Esther Burkholder of Sarasota, Fla., and Carl and Rosetta Burkholder of Bellfontaine, Ohio.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a daughter, Kathryn O. Burkholder; a son, Jerry Irvin Burkholder; two brothers, Ray and Wayne Burkholder; and a sister, Edith Hochstetler.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Woodlawn Amish Mennonite Church, Goshen, with Pastor Henry Hershberger and Pastor Virgil Hershberger of Hebron Christian Fellowship Church officiating. Burial will be in Thomas Cemetery, Goshen.

Calling is from 6 to 8 p.m. today and from 2-4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the Woodlawn church.

Memorials are to the prison ministry programs of Hebron Christian Fellowship Church of LaGrange, of which he was a member and active in the prison ministry.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury, is in charge of arrangements.

Jack Dunlap

ANGOLA — Jack E. Dunlap, 65, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at Northern Lakes Nursing and Rehabilitation in Angola.

He was born in Hillsdale, Mich., Sept. 29, 1937, to Perl and Esther (Rimer) Dunlap. He married Jane (Copeland) Dunlap Oct. 7, 1956.

A 1993 retired electrician, he was a former captain of the Angola Police Reserve. He was a member of the Angola Masonic Lodge 236, York Rite, Scottish Rite, Mizpah Shrine Temple, and former member of the Angola Moose Ritual Team. He attended Montgomery (Mich.) Methodist Church.

Surviving are his wife; his mother; two sons and daughters in-law, Bradley and Ina Dunlap of Eugene, Ore., and Steven and Pam Dunlap of Angola; and three grandchildren, Wendy, Logan and Jacob.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola with the Rev. Diane Stone officiating.

Visitation will be from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Monday at Weicht Funeral Home.

Burial will be at Lakeside Cemetery, Fremont.

Memorials are to Montgomery Methodist Church.

Esther Getz

FREMONT — Esther Ruth Getz, 67, died Friday, March 14, 2003 at her residence.

She was born in LaGrange, Jan. 29, 1936, to Ellis and Ethel (George) Miller. She married Bill K. Getz Jan. 29, 1954, in LaGrange, and he survives.

She was an employee at the McDonald's at the Indiana Toll Road in Fremont. She attended Sonlight Community Church in Angola.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Ron and Sheila Getz of LaGrange and Michael and Belinda Getz of Keystone, Fla.; two brothers, Bill Miller of LaGrange and Gene Miller of Howe; and nine grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one sister, Erma Stevens.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Beams Funeral Home in Fremont with Pastor John Shapanus officiating.

Visitation will be from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Monday at Beams Funeral Home.

Burial will be at Fremont Cemetery in Fremont.

Memorials are to Cameron Home Health & Hospice.

Dan Fry

LAGRANGE — Dan J. Fry, 87, of LaGrange, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at his residence.

He was born in Nappanee, Aug. 19, 1915, to John D. and Mary (Yoder) Fry. He married Lydia G. (Helmuth) Oct. 21, 1937 in LaGrange and she survives.

He moved to LaGrange County from Nappanee in 1920 and owned a portable saw mill business for 35 years.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Mary Ellen and Vernon Raber of Abbyville, S.C., and Esther Anna Fry of Crosshill, S.C.; seven sons and daughters-in-law, John and Pat Fry of West Blocton, Ala., Jacob and Polly Anna Fry of Topeka, Christ and Katie Fry of Conneaut, Pa., Joe and Bonnie Fry of Constantine, Mich., Dan and Ruby Fry, Jr. of Nappanee, Clarence and Polly Anna Fry of Middlebury, and Melvin and Rosetta Fry of LaGrange; 39 grandchildren; and 66 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father; her mother; and two brothers, Sam Fry and Willard Fry.

Services will be held at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday at the family residence with Bishop Ervin Bontrager, the Rev. Ervin Hostetler, and the Rev. Flyod Lehman officiating.

Visitation is after 1 p.m. today and all day Monday.

Burial will be at Miller Cemetery in LaGrange.

Arrangements are by Frurip-May Funeral Home.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 16 Kendallville, Indiana

Alma Williams

ROME CITY — Alma Williams, 85, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at her residence.

She was born at Pine Ridge, Ky., Feb. 14, 1918, to Pete and Laura (Caudill) Browning and stepmother Bell Browning. She married Bobby Williams March 23, 1936 in Knott County, Ky.

She was employed for many years at Starcraft Boats in Goshen and was a member of the Bethel Christian Baptist Church.

Surviving are three daughters and sons-in-law, Violet and Ralph McCoy of White River Junction, Vt., Laura Sue and Jim Fugate of Wolcottville, and Linda Keck of Rome City; four sons and three daughters-in-law, Howard "Cotton" and Cheryl Williams of Rome City, Wilmer "Hank" and Kathleen Williams of Rome City, Ivan Williams of Wolcottville, and Greg and Viva Williams of Wolcottville; one brother, Wilmer and Bess Browning of Lexington, Ky.; four sisters, Maude Guthrie of Hamilton, Ohio, Vera Cottrell of Coloniel Heights, Va., Kathleen Pigman of Lexington, Ky., and Ruth and Bob Hyman of Lexington, Ky.; 16 grandchildren; 34 greatgrandchildren; and 2 great-greatgrandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband; an infant son, Simon Pete; grandson, Tony Williams; great grandchild, Bailey Hall; brother, Elmer Browning; and two sisters, Beulah Campbell and Marie Devereaux.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Bethel Christian Baptist Church with Pastors Jamie Owens, Shawn Shepherd and Glenn Patrick officiating.

Visitation will be on Monday anytime after 3 p.m. at Bethel Christian Baptist Church.

Burial will be at the Orange Cemetery near Rome City.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Florence Scribner

KENDALLVILLE — Florence Laura Scribner, 88, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Home, Kendallville.

She was born Feb. 6, 1915 in Penfield, N.Y., to Jacob and Florence (Mundy) Welkley. She married Harold D. Scribner Feb. 6, 1935 in Penfield, N.Y. He survives.

She had worked in retail dairy stores and in the kitchen at Baptist Nursing Home in Fairport, N.Y.

Also surviving are a daughter, Bonnie Sherrick of Kendallville; a grandson, Rick Sherrick of New York, N.Y.; two brothers, Howard and Stanley Welkley of Florida; and a sister, Esther Flewelling of Massechusetts.

Services will be held at a later date in New York.

Burial will take place at Oakwood Cemetery in Penfield, N.Y.

Arrangements are by Berhalter Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Katie Yoder

TOPEKA — Katie Elizabeth Yoder, died Friday March 14, 2003, 20 minutes after being born at New Eden Care Center in Topeka.

She was born to Ray and Ada Sue (Miller) Yoder of Topeka, who survive.

Also surviving are three sisters, Mary Etna, Sarah Jean and Doretta Kay Yoder, all at home; grandparents, Glen and Elizabeth Yoder of Topeka and Marvin Ray and Katie Miller of Shipshewana; great-grandparents, Noah and Susie Miller of Shipshewana, Ada Miller of Shipshewana, and Amos J. and Wilma Miller of Shipshewana.

Graveside services will be held at 2:30 p.m. today at Honeyville Cemetery, Topeka, with Bishop Samuel Beachy officiating.

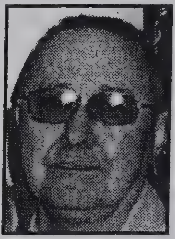
THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 16
Kendallville, Indiana

Granddaughter and fishing made Pa-Pa's life rich

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

AUBURN — Co-workers at Auburn Foundry sometimes referred to Benjamin Hall as "Gentle Ben."

He loved fishing and Indiana University sports almost equally, friends said, and he attended every practice and game played by his 8-year-old granddaughter, Courtney Sliger, in the Jackson Township Softball Association.


Mr. Hall

Mr. Hall, 60, died March 4 at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne, following a brief illness.

His daughter, Cathy Sliger, said that although her dad had arthritis, it did not stop him from playing catch with Courtney.

"He built a frame of 2-by-4's with a tarp for a backstop, so he wouldn't have to chase balls," she said. At her grandfather's funeral, Courtney read a letter to her "Pa-Pa" thanking him for teaching her how to play softball.

"Dad would have to sneak off if he wanted to go fishing alone," Cathy Sliger said. "Courtney loved to go with Dad, but he never got to fish. He was kept busy putting on Courtney's bait or taking off her catch."

After being told that her Pa-Pa wasn't going to get out of the hospital and go home, Courtney told her mom: "We've got our own personal guardian angel now."

Bill Iliffe, safety director at Auburn Foundry, said Mr. Hall was "an ideal supervisor.

"Since 1989, he was production supervisor in the melt department; he was a positive example...he cared about his people. He was conscientious, loyal, knowledgeable, fair and safety-minded.

"Those are traits that a company values and that is certainly why Ben was a valued employee for nearly 31 years," Iliffe said. "People who give 31 years — more than half their life — just don't come around much anymore."

A fishing partner of many years as well as a co-worker, Rick Rowe said Hall "was a lot of fun."

Rowe said his friend considered himself a "pro" when it came to fishing.

"He would have four or five rods with all kinds of fancy baits, but I would often outfish him with one pole and a plastic worm," Rowe said. "I teased him a lot about that!"

Hall had a great sense of humor and could tease right back, Rowe noted.

"A couple of years ago we went fishing in southern Indiana," Rowe recalled. "We arrived on a Friday night and camped, and in the morning the guys camped around us wanted to know who was doing all the snoring. Ben told them that I was 'the king of snoring' and that evening when we got back to camp after a day of fishing, all the neighboring camp sites were empty; everyone had moved to another part of the campground.

"Ben loved to tell that story," Rowe said.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 16
Kendallville, Indiana

Huntine was 'Superman' to family

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

FREMONT — Laurie Shaw may be 37 years old, but she was still her daddy's little girl.

"He still called me 'Pumpkin,'" Shaw said of her father, Thomas Huntine, 61, a Fremont resident who died Tuesday after battling pancreatic cancer for several months.

"There's no one word that describes him," Shaw said. "He had a heart that was bigger than he was, and he was a big guy. He cared about everyone, and everyone whose life he touched was better because of it. We called him 'Superman' ... me and his grandkids."

Mr. Huntine had owned Huntine Sales and Service in Angola for many years. He sold the business a few years ago and "sort of" retired, Shaw said.

"He still did odds and ends work for people," Shaw said.

Jan Pettigrew worked "on and off" with Mr. Huntine for several years.

"He was fun," she said. "He always had nicknames for people ... he usually didn't call people by their real names."

Mr. Huntine

Pettigrew said when Mr. Huntine owned his shop, it was something of a social center.

"There would always be a lot of guys there," she said. "Tom had his refrigerator there, and people would pop in to have a beer. He was a nice guy, and people liked him."

Pettigrew said there was nothing mechanical that Mr. Huntine couldn't fix.

"He knew his engines," she said. "He could look at just about anything and fix it."

Mr. Huntine was also an avid snowmobiler, and was a longtime member of the Potawatomi Snowmobile Club.

"Snowmobiling was a big part of his life," Shaw said. "He liked them and he liked boats and being on the lake. My grandpa had a place on the lake when my dad was little, so he's been around here forever, even though he lived in Fort Wayne for a while. This place was his life; this is where he was happy."

Pettigrew said this past winter was the "first one in 35 years" that Mr. Huntine hadn't been on a snowmobile.

"He was just too sick," she said. "But he loved it so much when he could do it. He even raced snowmobiles for a while. He loved to be going fast. Fast snowmobiles, fast boats ... fast anything."

Pettigrew also remembered Mr. Huntine as someone who "loved to hunt and loved his dogs and animals."

Lois Arnos had been dating Mr. Huntine for a short time before he died.

"Our time together was too short," Arnos said. "If I had to describe him with just a couple of words, I guess they'd be 'ornery' and 'fun.'"

Mr. Huntine was born Sept. 6, 1941, in Fort Wayne, to William Thomas and Mary Teresa (Conrad) Huntine. His wife, Patricia, preceded him in death on Sept. 10, 1999. He belonged to Lake George Lutheran Chapel. He was a member of the Angola Elks, Fremont Moose, and the Potawatomi Snowmobile Club.

Other survivors include a stepson, Rod Rathge of New Haven; a sister, Judy Buchan of Fort Wayne; a stepmother, Mary G. Huntine, Fort Wayne; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Burial was in Jamestown Cemetery, Steuben County. Memorials are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana, 5910 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne IN 46814.

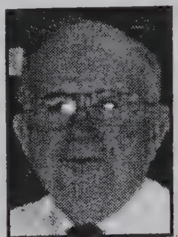
Roland Mayes Jr. loved being a pharmacist

WOLCOTTVILLE — Roland Mayes Jr., who died March 2 at the age of 82, always wanted to help sick people feel better. He started working in a drugstore when he was 13.

During World War II, he served as a medical corpsman, attached to both the Marines and the Army.

Mayes and young Ellowee Heminger wrote back and forth for 2 1/2 years, and when he returned from the Pacific in the fall of 1945, the couple planned a December wedding.

After children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Mayes had retired from his work as a pharmacist, but when the couple moved to Wolcottville, he opened Mayes Pharmacy in downtown Wolcottville. That was the beginning of a long, loving relationship with a new community.


Mr. Mayes

Youngest grandchild Jon Mayes noted his grandfather's professionalism, and oldest grandchild Bridget Brizek said during his 67 years in the pharmacy business, Mayes worked six long days a week — until his wife insisted he start taking a day off. Even then, Brizek said, it was hard for him to turn things over to another pharmacist, even for a few hours.

Most of the time, a family member was helping out at the store. Brizek said she noticed that her grandfather enjoyed arguing both sides of any issue, just to get people talking. He just loved people, she said, and people loved him.

Brizek spent many a summer vacation working alongside her grandfather, and for several years, it was a tradition to spend New Year's at the store, too, doing inventory.

So far, Brizek is the only one of the grandchildren to go into a health-related career. She manages the laboratory at Starke Memorial Hospital in Knox County, and specializes in infectious disease control.

Jon, 21, thinks he had an advantage over the other grandchildren. As the youngest, and only boy, he spent many hours on the lake with his grandfather. That's where Grandpa Mayes passed along stories of college and military life, as well as his values, like the importance of treating all people — not just old people — with respect. "He was a noble person," Jon said.

And he was fun. Brizek recalled a time her family came to visit. Grandpa Mayes placed a large plastic tablecloth on the floor and joined his great-granddaughter, 4-year-old Alexandra, as she presided over afternoon tea for an assortment of teddy bears and dolls.

Sadie Randolph

MUNCIE — Sadie Marie Randolph, 23, formerly of Hartford City, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at home.

She had been a reporter for the Hartford City News Times and worked at Alliance Mortgage Corp. in Yorktown.

She was born in Marion.

Surviving are her father and stepmother, Allen D. and Toni-Jean Randolph of Hartford City; her mother, Leisa M. Maddox of Carmel; two daughters, Kayla Marie Hartley of Hartford City and Kyran Jean Williams of Muncie; a sister, Sarah L. Randolph of Carmel; three stepbrothers, Daniel Maddox of Vermont, Tim Maddox of Hudson and John A. O'Connell of Hartford City; three stepsisters, Hope-Ann O'Connell, Heather Sills and Alanna Bucknell, all of Hartford City; her grandparents, Yvonne M. Farling and Janice C. Maddox, both of Hartford City; her step-grandmother, Anna A. Henbderson-Bousman of Hartford City and her great-grandmother, Ruth A. Farling of Hartford City.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church, Hartford City. Burial will be in Hartford City Cemetery.

Calling and wake will be Tuesday from 3 to 5 and 6 to 8 p.m. and Wednesday from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at Keplinger Funeral Home, Hartford City.

Memorials are to St. John's Riedman Memorial School Trust, 213 S. Spring St., Hartford City, IN 47348.

Gladys Nosek

LAGRANGE — Gladys B. Nosek, 78, died at 3:50 a.m. Sunday, March 16, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange where she had resided for the last month.

She was a homemaker. She moved from Chicago to Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange in 1987.

She was born in Chicago Oct. 19, 1924, to Frank A. and Celia (Mutka) Netzel.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law Charles J. and Glynna Nosek of LaGrange and David A. and Lettie Nosek of Mundelein, Ill.; two grandchildren, Jeff Nosek of LaGrange and Shari and Brad Targgart of Kendallville; a sister, Lavergne Marshall of Bolingbrook, Ill.; and two grandchildren.

A brother, Charles Netzel, preceded her in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 3 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, LaGrange. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with rosary at 8 p.m.

Memorials are to Maplewood Nature Center, LaGrange.

Katheryn Gaff

FORT WAYNE — Katheryn E. Gaff, 82, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Noble County. Before moving to Fort Wayne she lived in Columbia City.

Her husband Max died in 1995.

Surviving are two sons, Keith of Columbia City and Ken of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a brother, Thomas Hively of Wolf Lake.

Services will be Tuesday at 10 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home. Burial will be in Wolf Lake Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 6 to 9 p.m. and one hour before services.

Memorials are to Grace Brethren Church, 4619 Stellhorn Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46815.

Ray Norris

KENDALLVILLE — Ray Norris, 69, died Sunday, March 16, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Darrell Johnson

ROME CITY — Darrell R. Johnson, 86, formerly of Huntington, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor, LaGrange. Services are pending at McElhaney-Hart Funeral Home, Huntington.

Alma Williams

ROME CITY — Alma Williams, 85, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at her residence.

She was employed for many years at Starcraft Boats in Goshen and was a member of the Bethel Christian Baptist Church.

Mrs. Williams

She was born at Pine Ridge, Ky., Feb. 14, 1918, to Pete and Laura (Caudill) Browning.

She married Bobby Williams March 23, 1936, in Knott County, Ky. He died Aug. 12, 1994.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Violet and Ralph McCoy of White River Junction, Vt., Laura Sue and Jim Fugate of Wolcottville, and Linda Keck of Rome City; four sons and three daughters-in-law, Howard "Cotton" and Cheryl Williams of Rome City, Wilmer "Hank" and Kathleen Williams of Rome City, Ivan Williams and his fiance Jean Stanley of Wolcottville, and Greg and Viva Williams of Wolcottville; one brother, Wilmer and Bess Browning of Lexington, Ky.; four sisters, Maude Guthrie of Hamilton, Ohio, Vera Cottrell of Coloniel Heights, Va., Kathleen Pigman and Ruth and Bob Hyman, all of Lexington; 16 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

In additon to her parents and husband, she was preceeded in death by her stepmother, Bell Browning; an infant son, Simon Pete in 1937 ; a grandson, Tony Williams in 1987; a great grandchild, Bailey Hall in 2000; a brother, Elmer Browning; and two sisters, Beulah Campbell and Marie Devereaux.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Bethel Christian Baptist Church with Pastors Jamie Owens, Shawn Shepherd and Glenn Patrick officiating.

Visitation will be today after 3 p.m. at Bethel Christian Baptist Church.

Burial will be at the Orange Cemetery near Rome City.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Jorge Gonzales

LIGONIER — Jorge Gonzales, infant, died Thursday, March 13, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He was born in Kendallville Feb. 6, 2003, to Jorge Medina and Maria de Lourdes Nieves Gonzales of Ligonier.

Surviving with his parents are his grandparents, Pedro Medina Galindo, Magdalena Flores Meza, Manuel Nieves and Maria Esther Gonzales.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Orr Funeral Home, Ligonier. Burial will be at Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Calling will be two hours before services at the funeral home.

Patricia Edgerton

MARTIN, Mich. — Patricia A. Edgerton, 78, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at Rose Arbor Hospice in Kalamazoo.

She grew up in southern Indiana. She enjoyed playing sports. She graduated from Kendallville High School in 1943, and earned a bachelor's degree in social services from Olivet College. She was director of personnel training for Wolf & Dessauer in Fort Wayne until 1950. After her marriage in 1950, she moved several times with her husband, who worked for the FBI. After his retirement in 1972, the couple settled in Avilla, and in 1973 she became the first social worker for East Noble School Corp., where she worked for 13 years.

After her retirement, the couple moved to Martin, Mich., in 1989. She volunteered for Wings of Hope Hospice, Habitat for Humanity and women's and children's programs at the United Methodist Church.

She was born in Aurora, Ind., Nov. 6, 1925, to Norman and Willa (Blaisdell) Benham.

She married Harold Edgerton April 22, 1950, in Indiana. He survives in Martin.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, John Edgerton and Michelle Miller-Hansen of Martin and Robert and Rozanne Edgerton of Germantown, Tenn.; and two daughters and sons-in-law, Margaret and Ross L. Noble of Kendallville and Sarahjane and Scott Wisthuff of Mishawaka; grandchildren, Mary Anne Noble, Pam and Adam Smith, SPC Ross H. Noble, Linda Noble, Ellen Edgerton, Brett Edgerton, Evan and Alison Wistuff, Heather and Joe Carroll, Gabriel Hutchins, Kyle and Camille Mavis, Reid Hansen, and Robin Thompson; and great-grandchildren, Gage and Noah Carroll and Tanner and Bailey Thompson.

An infant brother, Norman Benham, and a grandson, Zackariah Nelson, preceded her in death.

Memorial services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Martin United Methodist Church.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Rupert, Durham, Marshall & Gren Funeral Home, Plainwell Chapel.

Memorials are to Martin United Methodist Church, Rose Arbor Hospice, Wings of Hope Hospice or Habitat for Humanity.

Dr. Harry Schell

ROME CITY — Dr. Harry R. Schell, 88, died Sunday, March 16, 2003, at Bloomington Hospital.

He retired in 2000 as a medical doctor in Bloomington. He practiced for 58 years of service.

He was born in Rome City.

Surviving are his wife, Judith A.; a daughter, B. Ann Warren; three sons, John D., Richard H. and Phillip A.; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

No services or calling are scheduled.

The Cremation Society of Indiana, Indianapolis, is in charge of arrangements.

Magnolia Bowden

ROCHESTER — Magnolia "Maggie" Collins Bowden, 69, died at 12:53 a.m. Thursday, March 14, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

She worked for several years at ProDesign until she retired. Then she worked part-time cleaning the new Mentone United Methodist Church until her death.

She was born in Handshoe, Ky., March 1, 1934, to Hurly and Girly (Sexton) Shepherd.

She married John Bowden. He survives in Rochester.

Also surviving are four sons and two daughters-in-law, Lee Jr. and Linda Howard of Wabash, Kenny and Deb Howard of Argos, Leslie Howard of Nappanee and Paul Howard of Rochester; a daughter, Sue Clemons of Cromwell; 10 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; three sisters and a brother-in-law, Geeneva Wallen of Kendallville, Marleen and Joe Miller of Auburn, and Clora Montgomery of Shelby, Ohio; four brothers and three sisters-in-law, Comodora and Jan Shepherd of Combs, Ky., Beauford and JoAnn Shepherd of Corunna, and Bud and Linda Handshoe and Thelmar Handshoe, all of Auburn.

Her parents and a sister preceded her in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 3 p.m. at Hartzler Funeral Home, with the Rev. Lloyd Shepherd officiating. Burial will be at Akron Cemetery.

Calling will be two hours before services.

Memorials are to the family.

Ray Norris

KENDALLVILLE — Ray Dean Norris, 69, died Sunday, March 16, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was formerly employed by Beights Oil Co., where he did service work and delivered bulk fuels. He retired July 1, 1998, as head custodian at Kendallville Middle School. He attended Blackhawk Baptist Church in Fort Wayne.

He was born in Albion June 28, 1933, to Benjamin and Ethel (Randall) Norris.

He married Mary Alice Feller Aug. 20, 1971, in Kendallville. She survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Radena and Tim Gienger of Kendallville; three sisters, Emmagene Long, Katy Weber and Evelyn Moore, all of Albion; four brothers, Jack Norris of Roanoke, Kenny Norris of Ann Arbor and Rex and Joe Norris, both of Fort Worth, Texas; a grandson, Kory Gienger of Kendallville; and a granddaughter, Marissa Gienger of Kendallville.

A brother, Alton "Ike" Norris, preceded him in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Keith Moore officiating. Burial will be Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 3 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Humane Society of Noble County.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Darrell Johnson

ROME CITY — Darrell R. Johnson, 86, died at 9:12 p.m. Saturday, March 15, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange.

He was a welder and toolmaker for Fruehauf Corp. in Fort Wayne. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during World War II. He was a member of American Legion Post 7 in Huntington.

He was born in Wells County Sept. 8, 1916, to Lee and Elizabeth (Rogers) Johnson.

He married Vera Short Dec. 4, 1937, in Kokomo. She survives in Rome City.

Also surviving are a son, Darrell "Bud" Johnson Jr. of Huntington; two daughters and a son-in-law, Sandy Forsthoffer of Huntington and Judith and Thomas B. McNabb of Auburn; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two stepgreat-grandchildren; and a sister and brother-in-law, Mildred and Ray Davis of Marion.

A daughter, Kay Lynn Rafatjah, preceded him in death.

Services will be Wednesday at noon at McElhaney-Hart Funeral Home in Huntington, with the Rev. Yvonne Brown officiating. Burial will be in Gardens of Memory Cemetery, Marion.

Calling will be one hour before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society, c/o McElhaney Funeral Home, 715 N. Jefferson St., Huntington, IN 46750.

Claudine Houser

FORT WAYNE — Claudine M. Houser, 94, died Monday, March 17, 2003, at home.

She was born in New Haven.

Survivors include her husband, Earl; a son, Charles Houser of Urbana, Ohio; three daughters, Louann Griffiths and Judith Quinn, both of Fort Wayne, and Elaine Moser of Wolcottville; 14 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; two sisters, June Lefler and Rosemary Murray, both of Fort Wayne; and a brother, Bernard Dahms of Columbia City.

A daughter, Jacqueline Schneider, preceded her in death.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. and rosary at 4:30 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home.

Memorials are to Masses or Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church.

Patsy Needler

LAGRANGE — Patsy Lou Needler, 73, died at 7:50 p.m. Sunday, March 16, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Santa Ana, Calif.

She was born in Tulsa, Okla., March 27, 1929, to William and Bonnie Worshman.

She married Dr. Jay H. Needler June 17, 1951, in Santa Ana, Calif. He preceded her in death.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Dixie and Mark Notestine of LaGrange; two granddaughters and their husbands, Terra and William Reynolds of Wolcottville and Christine and Andrew Douglass of Howe; and a great-granddaughter and her husband, Emma and Cameron Reynolds of Wolcottville.

Private memorial services will be held at a later date.

Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange is in charge of arrangements.

Richard Bingaman

Mr. Bingaman

GARRETT — Richard Clarence Bingaman, 76, died Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at 8:06 a.m. in Miller's Merry Manor nursing home of Garrett.

Mr. Bingaman co-owned and operated the Avilla Grain Elevator and the Fremont Elevator for many years before retiring in 1977. He had served as the Fremont Township trustee.

He was a member of the Fremont United Methodist Church. He served in the U.S. Army medic corps during World War II.

He was born July 6, 1926, in Metz to Ellsworth C. and Florence H. (Moore) Bingaman.

He married JoAnn McNaughton on July 16, 1948, in the Fremont United Methodist Church. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Karen A. and Alan Middleton of rural Auburn; a son and daughter-in-law, Kevin and Gloria Bingaman of Monroe; three grandchildren, Amy M. Middleton of Indianapolis, Erica R. Middleton of Philadelphia and Ryan A. Middleton of Muncie; a sister, Eloise Zuber of Angola; two stepgrandchildren and five step-great-grandchildren.

A sister, Jean Lauer, preceded him in death.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in Beams Funeral Home of Fremont. The Rev. Scott Shoaff and the Rev. Greg Rittenhouse will officiate. Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery of Fremont.

Calling is Thursday from 4-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Fremont United Methodist Church or a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be sent to funeralinfo@zwickjahn.com.

Edward Stocker

INDIANAPOLIS — Edward Duane Stocker, 73, died Thursday, March 13, 2003, at his home.

He was a senior project engineer and a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving in the Korean conflict.

He lived in Bellevue, Ohio, for 11 years, Conneaut, Ohio, for 15 years and in Indiana for 47 years.

He was born in Conneaut April 23, 1929, to Edward L. and Lina S. (Ilvonen) Stocker.

He married Charlotte Elaine Ashby Sept. 26, 1954, in Kendallville. She died Oct. 19, 1998.

Surviving are a brother, Ronald P. Stocker of Parma, Ohio; and a brother-in-law and spouse, Robert H. and Connie Ashby of Kendallville.

There are no services or calling. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Alma Williams** were held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Bethel Christian Baptist Church, with Pastors Jamie Owens, Shawn Shepherd and Glenn Patrick officiating. Burial was in Orange Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Rick Williams, Rob Williams, Gregory Williams II, Gregory Williams III, Jackie Williams and Bob Keck.

Honorary pallbearers were Chris McCoy, Brett McCoy and Jim Fugate Jr.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

Robert Tackett

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio — Robert Tackett, 72, died March 9, 2003, at Community Hospital, Springfield, after battling cancer for several years.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, and retired from Wright Patterson Air Force Base. He was a member of Maiden Lane Church of God, Springfield. He was an avid mushroom hunter.

He was born in Harold, Ky., April 7, 1930, to Sheridan and Sarah (Hall) Tackett.

His wife, Vivian (Orahood) Tackett, survives in Springfield.

Also surviving are a daughter, Pamela Tackett Berryman of Florida; two sons, Michael and Robert Tackett Jr., both of Springfield; two sisters, Gertrude Bolen of Kendallville and Sola Williams of Printer, Ky.; four brothers, Joe Tackett of Corunna, Earl and Walker Tackett, both of Kendallville, and Charley Tackett of Kentucky; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were Thursday at Richards, Raff & Dunbar Funeral Home, with Pastor Randy Spence officiating. Burial was at Enon Cemetery, Enon, Ohio.

Memorials may be made to Maiden Lane Church of God or the American Cancer Society.

Condolences may be e-mailed to cayjen@locl.net.

Wilmer Leitch

ALBION — Wilmer G. Leitch, 75, died at 3:25 p.m. Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at his home following a lengthy illness.

Among the survivors is his wife of 53 years, Mary (Ohlwine) Leitch.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneral-home.com.

THE NEW ERA
MARCH 19 Albion, Indiana

Ray D. Norris

KENDALLVILLE – Ray Dean Norris, age 69, died on Sunday March 16, 2003, at the Parkview Memorial Hospital, Fort Wayne, IN.

He was born on June 28, 1933, in Albion, Indiana to Benjamin and Ethel (Randall) Norris. He married Mary Alice Feller on August 20, 1971, in Kendallville, IN, and she survives.

He was formerly employed by Beights Oil Co., doing service work and delivering bulk fuel, in Kendallville and more recently had retired July 1, 1998, as the head Custodian at the Kendallville Middle School. He attended Blackhawk Baptist Church in Fort Wayne, IN.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Alice of Kendallville; one daughter and son-in-law, Radena and Tim Gienger of Kendallville; three sisters, Emmagene Long, Katy Weber, and Evelyn Moore, all of Albion; four brothers, Jack Norris of Roanoke, Rex Norris of Fort Worth, TX, Kenny Norris of Ann Arbor, MI, and Joe Norris also of Fort Worth, TX; one grandson, Kory Gienger of Kendallville; and one granddaughter, Marissa Gienger from Kendallville.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Alton "Ike" Norris.

Services were held Wednesday, March 19, 2003, at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville with the Rev. Keith Moore officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville, following the service.

For those who wish, memorials are to the Humane Society of Noble County.

Gladys Krotzer

ROME CITY – Gladys May Krotzer, 80, died Monday, March 10, 2003, at her apartment at Sylvan Manor after a five-week illness.

She was a homemaker and for many years helped her husband run Krotzer's Berry Farm north of South Milford where she lived for more than 40 years. She was a member of Trinity Church United Methodist in Kendallville and South Milford United Methodist Church. She was a Girl Scout leader. At Sylvan Manor she was active in the Bible study group and at bingo games.

She was born in Bremen July 23, 1922, to Seymour and Myrtle (Sparrow) Heltzel.

She married John Charles Krotzer December 22, 1940, in Cosperville. He died May 7, 1999.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Fern Wentworth of Wawaka, Nancy and Tom Mulenkamp of Rockford, Ohio, and Connie and Richard Glass of Dallas Lake, Wolcottville; a son, Thomas Krotzer of Wawaka; a brother and sister-in-law, Floyd and Vivian Heltzel of Rome City; 14 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were seven brothers and four sisters.

Services were held Thursday March 13, 2003, at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Mike McKinney officiating. Burial was at Brushy Prairie Cemetery north of South Milford in LaGrange County.

George Coquillard Jr.

SYRACUSE – George W. Coquillard Jr., 70, died at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at his home.

He was retired from Commodore Homes, in Syracuse. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean conflict. He was a member of American Legion Post 223, VFW Post 1342 in Syracuse and a lifetime bowler at Wawasee Bowl.

He was born in Elkhart County September 1, 1932, to George W. Sr. and Hazel (Cowell) Coquillard.

He married Laura Newcomer March 3, 1961. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Sheryl and Rodney Bartman of Syracuse and Tammy Drang of Albion; a son, George W. Coquillard III of Syracuse; four sisters, Hazel Sawyer of Elkhart, Jessie Knafel of Ligonier, Buelah Shear of Syracuse and Shirley Borntrager of Florida; and a brother, Sam Coquillard Sr. of Syracuse.

Preceding him in death were two sons, Donald and Ronald Coquillard; and a sister.

Services were Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel in Syracuse, with the Revs. Lorne McCune and Theron Hanes officiating. Burial was in the Syracuse Cemetery.

For those who wish, memorials are to Syracuse Fire & EMS or Kosciusko Community Hospice and Home Care.

THE NEW ERA
MARCH Albion, Indiana
19

Katheryn E. Gaff

ROME CITY – Katheryn E. Gaff, 82, died Saturday, March 15, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was born December 10, 1920, in Noble County.

She was married to Max S. Gaff February 23, 1946, in Wolf Lake. He died in 1995.

Living in Fort Wayne and formerly of Columbia City, she was a homemaker and was a member of Grace Brethren Church and Ex-POW Auxiliary.

She is survived by two sons, Keith Gaff of Columbia City, and Ken Gaff of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren, Stephen Bryan Gaff, Jon David Gaff, Sara Lynn Gaff and Leaha Marie Gaff; and two great-grandchildren. She is also survived by a brother, Thomas Hively of Wolf Lake.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Max in 1955 and a sister, Frances Graham in 2000.

Services were held Monday, March 17, 2003, at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Funeral Home in Fort Wayne.

Burial was in Wolf Lake.

Preferred memorials are to Grace Brethren Church, Fort Wayne.

Wilmer Leitch

ALBION — Wilmer G. Leitch, 75, died at 3:25 p.m. Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at his home following a lengthy illness.

He grew up in Noble County. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps and Merchant Marine. He and his wife lived in Michigan while he was affiliated with General Motors and moved to their present home in Albion in 1981. He retired in 1989 as a truck driver for Sunrise Trucking Co.

He was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church and American Legion Post 246 in Albion and the Noble County Historical Society.

He was born in Green Township in Noble County April 14, 1927, to Dallas and Mary (Kesling) Leitch.

He married Mary Ellen Ohlwine Aug. 6, 1949. She survives. They were married for over 53 years.

Also surviving are his father, Dallas C. Leitch of Kendallville; a son and daughter-in-law, Douglas A. and Andrea Leitch of Pinconning, Mich.; a daughter and son-in-law, Pamela and Keith Bissonette of Midland, Mich.; five brothers and four sisters-in-law, Leo and Josephine Leitch of Bay City, Mich., Willard and Effie Leitch of Pineville, La., Ray and Barbara Leitch of Danville, Iowa, Richard and Nancy Leitch of Fort Wayne and Daniel Leitch of Ocala, Fla.; four sisters and two brothers-in-law, Freida Leach of Garrett, Marcille and Joseph Leatherman of Albion, Joan Houser of Shipshewana and Rosalie and Keith Johnson of Elkhart; four granddaughters; and five great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were a sister, Mary Ellen Leitch; and a brother, James Leitch.

Memorial services will be Saturday, March 29, at 11 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Austin W. Fergusson of Asbury United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Calling will be one hour before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Asbury United Methodist Church or American Lung Association.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Bryan Lash

AVILLA — Bryan Lee Lash, 36, died at 4:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2003, at his home.

He was born March 26, 1966, to Tom P. and Sandra K. Lash. They survive in Avilla.

Services are pending at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla.

Merlin Rice

FORT WAYNE — Merlin A. Rice, 76, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Sunday, March 16, 2003, at Jupiter Medical Center in Jupiter, Fla.

He was a truck driver for Dailey Asphalt Co. He was president and business manager for Teamsters Union Local 297 and a business manager for Local 414, retiring in 1986.

In Florida, he was Okeechobee County Democratic Party state committeeman, vice chairman of the Small County Coalition and vice chairman of the 16th Congressional District.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are two daughters, Patricia J. Felver of South Whitley and Trois A. Ray of Columbia City; two sons, Marlin R. Rice of Albion and Jimmie A. Rice of Columbia City; nine grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home. Burial will be in Uniontown Cemetery, Yoder.

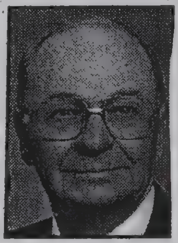
Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8:30 p.m. with Masonic services at 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Shriner's Children's Hospital.

Glenn Shank

HUNTERTOWN — Glenn A. Shank, 91, died at 11:08 a.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2003, at Heritage Park Nursing Home in Fort Wayne.

He spent his youth in Ohio and graduated from Miller City High School in 1930. He and his wife lived in Auburn for 10 years and in 1940 moved to their farm in Eel River Township in Allen County.


Mr. Shank

The couple ran a mint distillery and sold processed mint to plants in Indiana and Michigan. They also raised a variety of vegetables for the V-8 vegetable juice company. They lived in their present home in Huntertown the last 31 years.

Mr. Shank earned his real estate broker's license at age 65 and was owner and operator of Shank Real Estate in Huntertown for 10 years. He was active in community service organizations, including Huntertown United Methodist Church, Huntertown Lodge 689 F&AM, Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Wayne, and Mizpah Shrine in Fort Wayne. He was Eel River Township trustee for eight years, a member of the Northwest Allen County School Corp. board for eight years and was past president of Huntertown Lions Club.

He was born in Putnam County, Ohio, Jan. 2, 1912, to Cary and Alice (Allison) Shank.

He married Velma L. Tooman Jan. 10, 1931, in Ottawa, Ohio. They were high school classmates and married soon after graduation. They were married 71 years. She died July 3, 2002.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Gerald "Bud" and Sally Shank of Fort Wayne; two daughters and sons-in-law, Jean and Edward Ryan and Virginia and L. Roger Harrod, all of Fort Wayne; a daughter-in-law, Dianna Shank of Fort Wayne; a half-sister, Erma Kern of Continental, Ohio; 15 grandchildren; 41 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

Also preceding him in death were a son, Robert L. Shank, on Jan. 22, 1996; a brother, Gaylen Shank; a grandson, Anthony Shank; and a great-granddaughter, Anne Ryan.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Huntertown United Methodist Church, with Dr. David Michel, pastor of the church, officiating. Burial will be in Huntertown Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 8 p.m., with Masonic services by Lodge 689 F&AM at 8 p.m., at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Huntertown United Methodist Church.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Franklin Halferty

LAGRANGE — Franklin A. Halferty, 81, died at 10:20 a.m. Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at his home.

He was a military veteran and retired truck driver. He was a member of the American Legion in LaGrange and the V.F.W. in Sturgis, Mich.

He was born in Milford Township April 12, 1921, to Dayton and Reva (Gaskill) Halferty.

He was married to Rachel Murley. She preceded him in death in 2001.

Surviving are five daughters, Barbara Halferty of Coldwater, Mich., Beverly Hoff of Nottawa, Mich., Nancy Draggoo of Detroit, Linda Rietz of Port Huron, Mich., and Michele Halferty of Ontario, Ind.; four sons, Allen Halferty of Elkhart, Duane Halferty of LaGrange, and Al and Curtis Halferty, both of Sturgis; and 30 grandchildren.

There are no services or calling. A private memorial services will be held at a later date.

Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange is in charge of arrangements.

Levi Miller

TOPEKA — Levi E. Miller, 61, died at 5:06 a.m. Thursday, March 20, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital. He had been ill a few months.

He was a lifetime resident of LaGrange County. He was employed by Redman Homes in Topeka and a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He was born in LaGrange April 27, 1941, to Emanuel and Millie (Weaver) Miller.

He married Mattie C. Hochstetler March 16, 1961, in LaGrange County. She survives in Topeka.

Also surviving are four sons and daughters-in-law, LaVern and Ruth Miller and Mervin and Katy Miller, all of Shipshewana, LeRoy and LaVerda Miller of Millersburg and Elmer and Marie Miller of Wolcottville; seven daughters and sons-in-law, Esther and Vernon Beechy and Freda and Larry Bontrager, all of LaGrange, Edna and James Whetstone of Goshen, Mary and Mahlon Yoder, Sara Etta and Calvin Raber and Katie and Richard Miller, all of Topeka, and Neoma and Loren Yoder of Middlebury; five brothers and four sisters-in-law, Perry and Barbara Miller of Middlebury, Emanual and Clara Miller of LaGrange, Jonas and Ida Miller of Ligonier, Christy and Carolyn Miller of Shipshewana and Freeman Miller of Topeka; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Esther and Harley Miller of Topeka and Emma and Alvin Miller and Lizzie Ann and Martin Yoder, all of LaGrange; five stepbrothers, Delbert and Anna Marie Mast and Ervin and Rose Mast, all of LaGrange, Jonas and Rosie Mast of South Carolina, David and Lucy Mast of Goshen and Levi Mast of Colorado; four stepsisters, Lydia Mae and Alvin Troyer of Sturgis, Mary and John Troyer of LaGrange, Edna and Ernest Yoder of Shipshewana and Katie and Chris Fry of Pennsylvania; a sister-in-law, Lydia Miller of Shipshewana; and 35 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; stepfather, John Mast; two brothers, Mervin and Melvin; and and a grandson, Earl Raber.

Services will be Sunday at 1:30 p.m. at the Dan Yoder residence on C.R. 500W, Topeka, with Bishop John Eash and the Rev. Dan Yoder and home ministers officiating. Burial will be at Hawpatch Cemetery, Topeka. Pallbearers will be Gerald Yoder, Wilbur Mast, William Beechy and Harley Miller.

Calling will be today after 2 p.m. and all day Saturday at the Miller residence.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ray Dean Norris** were held Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Keith Moore officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Jack Norris, Rex Norris, Kenny Norris, Joe Norris, Keith Feller, Curt Gillingham and Kory Gienger.

Harold Honeywell

LAGRANGE — Harold W. Honeywell, 73, died at 2:45 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

He retired from Kirsch Co. in Sturgis in 1991 after 36 years. He moved from Bronson, Mich., to LaGrange County in 1959. He was involved in chaplain ministries at the LaGrange County Jail, Miller's Merry Manor and Life Care Center, all in LaGrange.

He was born in Branch County, Mich., May 26, 1929, to Maurice and Marian (Taylor) Honeywell.

He married Suellen J. Gillen June 1, 1975, in LaGrange. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Connie and Dennis Kretchman of Grand Rapids, Mich.; three sisters, Janean Rubley of Bronson, Luellen Wells of Fremont and Ruth Mitchell of Galesburg, Mich.; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, with the Revs. Dale Hicks and David Thoms officiating. Burial will be at Ontario Cemetery, Howe.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Retha Koon

KENDALLVILLE — Retha M. Koon, 95, died at 2:20 p.m. Thursday, March 20, 2003, at her home. Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home.

Wayne Nichols

COLUMBIA CITY — Wayne A. Nichols, 72, died at 5 a.m. Thursday, March 20, 2003, at his home.

He attended high school in Orland. He worked more than 30 years as a heavy equipment operator and was employed by three different companies, retiring in 1993 from Fox Contractors Corp., Fort Wayne and Indianapolis.

Mr. Nichols

He had lived in Whitley County since 1951. He served in the Korean War from 1951 to 1953 and was a member of American Legion Post 98. He enjoyed building kit cars and dune buggies.

He was born in Steuben County March 18, 1931, to Ford G. and Dorthea (Pennick) Nichols.

He married Deloris L. Schrader Sept. 8, 1951, at Grace Lutheran Church in Columbia City. She died Dec. 18, 2002.

Surviving are a son, Dennis Nichols of Columbia City; four daughters and three sons-in-law, Debra and Robert Bennett, Kathy and Michael Webb, Lora and Jeff Herendeen, all of Columbia City; and Lisa England of Avilla; grandchildren, Michelle and Barry Anderson of Churubusco, Justin England of Garrett, and Jenna and Ethan England of Avilla; a great-grandson, Quincy England of Garrett; a brother and sister-in-law, W. Dean and Marie Nichols of Angola; and a sister, Betty Berry of Fort Wayne.

Also preceding him in death were two brothers Gerald Nichols and Ford Nichols.

Services will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, with Pastor Barry Faucett of New Hope Wesleyan Church officiating. Burial with military rites by American Legion Post 98 will be at Nolt Cemetery, Columbia City.

Calling will be Saturday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society or Parkview Whitley Home Health Care and Hospice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.demoney-grimes.com.

Bryan Lash

AVILLA — Bryan Lee Lash, 36, died at 4:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2003, at his home.

He was born in Kendallville March 26, 1966, to Thomas P. and Sandra K. (Krock) Lash. They survive.

Also surviving are a son, Bryan K. Lash; a daughter, Amber N. Lash, both of Huntertown; a brother and sister-in-law, Tracey C. and Melinda Lash of Avilla; and a sister and brother-in-law, Leah C. and Jesse Rigsby of Wolcottville.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with Pastor Dean Bearman officiating. Burial will be in Sweet Cemetery, Albion.

Calling will be two hours before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 22 Kendallville, Indiana

Helen Blue

LIGONIER — Helen Lois Blue, 81, died Thursday, March 20, 2003, at 9:35 p.m. at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville of a heart attack.

Mrs. Blue had been a Girl Scout troop leader and Sunday school teacher. She was a member of Ligonier Presbyterian Church. She enjoyed ballroom dancing. She was a co-founder of Stone's Trace Historical Society and a member of Noble County Retired Teachers Association. She was also a member of Ligonier Historical Society; Noble County Genealogy Society and Golden Girls of Ligonier. She was proud to be an Indiana University graduate and proud of her farming heritage.

Mrs. Blue

She retired as a teacher from West Noble after 27 years of teaching. Always being mindful of the importance of education, she also tutored many students and adults and encouraged them to do their best. She made an impact on the lives of many of her students.

She was born Sept. 17, 1921, to Emmitt and Henrietta (Murray) Smith in Sparta Township, Noble County.

She married Graydon Blue on June 2, 1943, in Cromwell. He preceded her in death in 1966.

Surviving are three daughters and sons-in-law, Gail and Steve Hursey and Joyce and Joe Milutis, all of Ligonier, and Rita and Don Dodds of Syracuse; one brother, Richard W. Smith of Ligonier; and four grandchildren, Stephanie Montgomery, Gretchen Herbaugh, Jordan Anne Baugher and Paul Dodds.

She was preceded in death by a grandson, Phil Dodds.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier with the Rev. Jean Ness officiating.

Calling is Sunday from 2 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be at Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Memorials are to the Daughters of the American Revolution or Stone's Trace Historical Society.

Clarence Best

AUBURN — Clarence E. Best, 73, died Thursday, March 20, 2003, at 9:17 p.m. in DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Best worked in assembly at Dana Corp. in Auburn for 40 years. He had lived in Auburn for 73 years.

He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving from 1946 to 1949.

He was a lifetime member of Garrett American Legion Post 178 and a member of the Garrett Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1892, the Garrett Eagles 1357, Auburn Moose Lodge, F.O.P Fort Wayne, and UAW 164.

He was born Nov. 10, 1929, in Corunna to Oscar and Pearl (May) Best.

He married Mary L. Fluke on Jan. 24, 1953, in Garrett. She died Nov. 20, 1996.

Surviving are three brothers, Eugene Best of Albion, Norman Best of Indianapolis and Dick Best of Lafayette.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Ralph Best, Donald Best and Howard Best, and two sisters, Helen Bassinger and Martha Rowe Rudnicki.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with Rev. Arthur G. Ferry Jr. officiating.

Calling will be one hour prior to services at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery of Auburn. Military graveside honors will be conducted by the Garrett posts of the American Legion and V.F.W.

Memorials are to the Garrett post of the American Legion.

Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@sk

THE NEWS SUN

MARCH 22 Kendallville, Indiana

Retha Koon

KENDALLVILLE — Retha M. Koon, 95, formerly of Kendallville, died Thursday, March 20, 2003, at her residence in Wolcottville.

She was employed in the office of Northern Indiana Fuel & Light in Kendallville and more recently had retired as a switchboard operator at Flint & Walling Mfg. She was a lifetime member of St. John Lutheran Church in Kendallville and a member of Sigma Beta sorority. She graduated from Kendallville High School in 1926.

She was born Dec. 8, 1907, to John and Rose (Gehrig) Koon in Kendallville.

She is survived by one brother, Harvey Koon of Oklahoma City, Okla.; one sister, Ota Berkes of Wolcottville; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by three sisters, Rilla Barnett, Irene Swihart and Cora Klinkenberg; and two brothers, Archie and Cecil Koon.

Services will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church in Kendallville with the Rev. Robert Shriner officiating.

Calling is one hour before the services.

Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery on Monday.

Memorials to St. John Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be sent to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Dorothy Weaver

LAGRANGE — Dorothy Lynn (Dottie) Weaver, 14, of Wabash, died Friday, March 21, 2003, at Vernon Manor Children's Home in Wabash.

Born in LaGrange, Miss Weaver moved to Wabash in August 1995.

She was born on March 18, 1989. Her parents are Joseph and Valerie Waver of Wolcottville and Jenell Burger and Brett Maskow of Howe. They survive.

Also surviving are three sisters, Hailey Weaver of Wolcottville, and Ashlyn and Massie Maskow of Howe; two brothers, David Joseph Ty Weaver of Howe and Kolby Weaver of Wolcottville; paternal grandparents David and Sarah Weaver of Howe, and Nelva Hawks of Wawaka; maternal grandparents Fred and Vedie Sue Burger of Howe, and Billy and Deb Slone of Somerset, Ky., and maternal great-grandparents Ivan and Thelma Burger of Howe and Renda Slone of Trenton, Fla; and two treasured friends, Tom and Barb Maskow of Howe.

Services will be at 11:30 a.m. Sunday at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange with the Rev. Michael McKinney officiating.

Calling is an hour before the service at the funeral home.

Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Memorials to the Vernon Manor Children's Home, 1955 S. Vernon St., Wabash.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH Kendallville, Indiana
23

Rice worked for union, Democratic Party

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

OKECHOBEE, Fla. — Merlin Rice is a name that, in Steuben County, is familiar to a lot of the Democrats.

Rice, a longtime Lake Gage resident who was instrumental in reviving the Democratic Party in Steuben County, died on Sunday, March 16, 2003, at Jupiter Medical Center in Jupiter, Fla. He had also lived in the Fort Wayne area. He was 76 years old.

Mr. Rice was born in Fort Wayne. He was a truck driver for Dailey Asphalt Co., president and business manager for Teamsters Union Local 297 and a business manager for Local 414, retiring in 1986.

His love for politics stayed with him even after he moved from Indiana to Florida. He was Okeechobee County Democratic Party state committeeman, vice chairman of the Small County Coalition and vice chairman, 16th Congressional District.

"I was his nephew by marriage, but I would also say we were good friends," said Carl Mozena of Orland. "He was headstrong. He was also a Democrat, which is the same as being headstrong."

In fact, Mozena said, Mr. Rice "was a Democratic chairman around here for years." He served mainly in the middle and late 1980s, leaving the post in 1989.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran.

Mozena said Mr. Rice succumbed to pancreatic cancer.

"He was a strong guy, but you just don't make it too long with that," Mozena said.

Mozena said Mr. Rice loved living on Lake Gage.

"Lake Gage was the place where he lived, and his parents had also lived at the lakes for years," he said.

Surviving are two daughters, Patricia J. Felver of South Whitley and Trois A. Ray of Columbia City; two sons, Marlin R. of Albion and Jimmie A. of Columbia City; nine grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Cancer didn't discourage devoted fisherman

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

CORUNNA — David Pankop was a fighter — his wife, Peggy, called him a "trooper" — and he didn't stop fighting the cancer that claimed his life until March 13, the day he died at DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

He was only 30, and he left behind not only his wife but three young children — Phillip, 11, Joshua, 9, and Tara, 3.

Soft-tissue cancer was found on the aorta of Pankop's heart and he underwent surgery last August to have it removed. His wife said a small amount of the cancer apparently remained and survived, spreading to her husband's lungs and liver.

"He thought he was going to beat it," Peggy Pankop said of her husband's illness. He underwent experimental chemotherapy and "… he really thought he was going to beat it," she repeated.

Mr. Pankop

David Pankop loved to fish and he continued passionate pursuit of the sport throughout his illness.

"He was very happy and the Lord was with him, and let David do everything he wanted to do," Peggy Pankop said. "His illness never stopped him from doing what he wanted to do."

David Pankop was a 1991 graduate of DeKalb High School, where his interests were FFA and auto mechanics. In November of 1991, he married Peggy Garman in Waterloo.

He was raised on a farm, Peggy Pankop said, and until February when the family moved into Hudson, the farm is where their family lived.

Working on cars was another passion.

"He was always doing something on a car," his wife said. "If he could make it go faster, he was doing it."

Peggy Pankop has decided to move her kids back to the farm.

"We are going to move back just as soon as we can," she said. The children find living in town boring, with her boys missing chores and cutting wood, she explained.

"He taught me a lot," Peggy Pankop said of her husband and their farm life. "He was just an all-around great guy and a good husband; we miss him a lot."

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 23 Kendallville, Indiana

Former social worker loved life and people

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — Patricia "Pat" A. Edgerton, who died March 15, might have claimed as a "life verse" Colossians 3:23 — "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart ..."

Edgerton taught her Christian values by her actions, not words. The work of her father, and later her husband's, necessitated frequent moves throughout her life. She was able to develop a graceful presence that quickly put people at ease.

The family eventually moved from southern Indiana to Noble County and Edgerton graduated from Kendallville High School in 1943. After earning a bachelor's degree in social services, she was director of personnel training at a prominent Fort Wayne store until 1950 when she met and married Harold "Hal" Edgerton. Their shared faith and values prepared them for an exciting 52 years together.

After a year in Michigan, her husband was recalled to the FBI, which meant, for the next 21 years, the family was often uprooted, but Edgerton created a loving, home-like atmosphere wherever they went.

When her husband retired in 1972, the couple returned to the Noble County area and Edgerton became the first-ever social worker for East Noble School Corp.

Craig Ream, the district's business manager, was on the school board at the time, and also knew Edgerton from church.

"She was such a special person. She always had the best interests of the children in mind," said Ream.

In 1989 Edgerton and her husband moved to a farm in Martin, Mich., where she began the third phase of her life — volunteer work. Whether helping grieving families cope with loss at Wings of Hope Hospice or helping deserving families get a house of their own through Habitat for Humanity, Edgerton continued to serve others.

She continued to be active through the town library and her church. She was involved in children's and women's ministries, including being half of the "Kitchen Band," along with sister-in-law Katie. The two brought "musical" enjoyment to audiences all over the area.

Even during her last days at Rose Arbor Hospice in Kalamazoo, Mich., her family said she continued to minister to people God brought into her life.

In addition to her husband, her surviving family includes the Ross L. Noble family of Kendallville.

Alfred Thomas

BRONSON, Mich. — Alfred H. Thomas, 69, died Thursday, March 20, 2003, at his Bronson home.

He was the owner of Thomas Construction and a Korean War veteran, serving with the 82nd Airborne Division and later in the National Guard. He was a member of the Orland and Bronson American Legions, for which he served as commander. He was a member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Angola.

He was born April 4, 1933, in Byron, Mich., to Stanley W. and Margaret (Chamness) Thomas. On May 26, 1956, in Bronson, he married Mary Jane Nichols, and she survives in Bronson.

Also surviving are three sons, Joe, Greg and Tim Thomas, all of Orland; three brothers, Ralph of Orland, Dan of Burkville, Ala. and Fred of Elyria, Ohio; a sister, Sister Margaret Thomas of Denver, Colo.; three grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

A brother, Francis Thomas, and a sister, Mary Sharrett, preceded him in death.

A funeral Mass will be Monday at 10 a.m. at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Angola, with Father Fred Pasche officiating. Calling will be today from 2-5 p.m. at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola.

Burial will be in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Bronson, with military rites by Bronson American Legion Post 259. Memorials are to Community Health Center of Branch County Hospice.

Earl Niccum

FORT WAYNE — Earl E. Niccum, 80, died Friday, March 21, 2003, at Golden Years Homestead.

He was a Delaware County native who retired in 1987 as a machinist at Dana Corp. after over 30 years of service. He formerly resided in New Haven and attended New Haven United Methodist Church. A World War II U.S. Army veteran, he was a member of American Legion Post 330.

Surviving are two sons, Daniel E. of Atlanta and Paul E. of New Haven; a daughter, Sally George of Leo-Cedarville; four brothers, Earnest and Donovan, both of New Haven, Leonard of Angola and Dwain of Fort Wayne; a sister, Beverly Lash of New Haven; and four grandchildren.

His wife, Ruth E., preceded in in death.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at E. Harper & Son Funeral Home, 740 Indiana 930 E., New Haven, with calling one hour before services and from 2-6 p.m. today.

Burial with military rites will be in IOOF Cemetery, New Haven. Memorials are to the church or Heartland Hospice.

Diane Hansen

ANGOLA — Diane J. Hansen, 66, died Friday, March 21, 2003, in Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Angola.

She was the business manager for a wallpaper distributor, retiring in 1987.

She was born April 11, 1936, in Chicago, to John and Ann (Taylor) Buza.

Surviving are an aunt and six cousins.

A funeral Mass will be at a later date. Burial will be in Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola. Weicht Funeral Home in Angola is in charge of arrangements.

Clarence Freed

AUBURN — Clarence F. Freed, 98, died Friday, March 21, 2003, at Wesley Healthcare, Auburn.

He retired from the DeKalb County Highway Department in 1970. He attended the Auburn Church of the Nazarene.

He was born Nov. 23, 1904, in DeKalb County, to Samuel and Elizabeth (Smith) Freed. On June 30, 1934, in Angola, he married Dorothy Clingan, and she preceded him in death on Aug. 29, 1989. A brother, Donald, and five sisters, Esther Leins, Pearl Mahon, Daley Schumck, Mary Hartman and Ava Crumb, are also deceased.

Surviving are three sons, Marven Jay, Stanley Lee and Lyle Gene Freed, all of Auburn; three brothers, Elmer and Robert Freed of Garrett and Howard Freed of Kendallville; 10 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; 12 stepgreat-grandchildren; and one step-great-great-granchild.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo, with the Rev. John Kinsey officiating. Calling will be Monday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m.

Burial will be in Fairfield Cemetery, Corunna. Memorials are to Wesley Healthcare, Auburn. E-mail condolences to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Sharon Embry

PLEASANT LAKE — Sharon Ann Embry, 61, of Pleasant Lake, died Friday, March 21, 2003, at her sister's home in Clinton Township, Mich.

She was a house cleaner for Aldrich Builders in Angola and a member of the Pleasant Lake Baptist Church.

She was born April 21, 1941, in Detroit, to Elmer J. and Beverly (McCabe) Smith. On Aug. 23, 1980, she married Stanley Embry, and he preceded her in death on Jan. 24, 2001. A stepson, Randy Embry, died in 1987.

Surviving are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Keith and Phyllis Gravlin of Sugarhill, Ga., Christopher and Kathy Gravlin of Warren, Mich., and Daniel Gravlin of Sweetser, Mich.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Tammy and Gary Moore of Marysville, Mich., and Kelly and Goff McMahon of of Cartersville, Ga.; a stepson, Michael Embry of St. Clair Shores, Mich.; and a stepdaughter, Susan St. John of Clinton Township, Mich.

Services will be Monday at 1 p.m. at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola, with the Rev. George Foulk officiating. Calling will be today from 2-5 p.m.

Burial will be in Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola.

23

Gladys Slone

AUBURN — Gladys Slone, 71, died Saturday, March 22, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

She was a homemaker and attended Waterloo Freewill Baptist Church and New Hope Christian Center in Waterloo.

She was born Sept. 23, 1931, in Pippa Passes, Ky., to Taylor and Mada (Huff) Watson. In 1948 in Hindman, Ky., she married Luther Slone, and he preceded her in death in 1966. A daughter, Joyce Ann Slone, two granddaughters, Jennifer Lynn and Jeanie Lee Slone, a brother, James E.L. Watson and a sister, Juanita Jacobs, are also deceased.

Surviving are four sons, three daughters-in-law and a son's fiancé, Luther Jr. and Tina Slone, Bob and Penny Slone and Bill Slone and Shelia Hamilton, all of Auburn, and Glen and Karen Slone of Corunna; a daughter, Catherine Slone of Auburn; a sister, Wanda Sexton of Auburn; her good friends Aaron Deckard, Cathy Sue Eads and Misty Capps; 19 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Services will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Waterloo Freewill Baptist Church, with the Rev. Ron Stambaugh officiating. Calling will be Monday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo.

Burial will be in Sedan Cemetery, Corunna. Memorials are to Waterloo Freewill Baptist Church.

Samuel Closson

FORT WAYNE — Samuel T. Closson, 64, died Thursday, March 20, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

He was a salesman for Glenbrook Dodge and worked part-time for Hertz Rent-A-Car as a transporter. He was a long-time bartender for VFW Post 1421 and a member of Trier Ridge Community Church. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

Surviving are his wife, Marjorie; two daughters, Kristina Closson and Malaina Dove, both of Fort Wayne; a stepdaughter, Cynthia Houck of Angola; a son, Brent Rau of Continental, Ohio; a stepson, Vernon Dove of Atlanta; two sisters, Susan Closson of Avilla and Mary Elwood of New Haven; two brothers, Michael of Fort Wayne and Terry of Goshen; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services with military rites will be Monday at 11 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home, 1140 Lake Ave., with calling today from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m.

Memorials are to the Malaina Dove Education Fund.

Randy Bowen

EDGERTON, Ohio — Randy J. Bowen, 33, died Thursday, March 20, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a Hicksville, Ohio, native and heavy equipment operator for Center Concrete and Stafford Sand & Gravel near Edgerton. He was an Edgerton High School graduate.

Surviving are his wife, Candi J.; children Randy and Cebrina, both at home; his mother and stepfather, Bonnie and Shawn Hoffman of Defiance; his stepmother, Cathy Bowen of Butler; and his grandparents, Vesta Bowen and Frank and Maralyn Cape, all of Edgerton.

His father, Rick, and grandfather, Roy, preceded him in death.

Services are today at 2 p.m. at Krill Funeral Home in Edgerton.

Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Edgerton. Memorials are to the family.

Eva Snyder

NORTH MANCHESTER — Eva K. Snyder, 95, died at 6:55 p.m. Friday, March 21, 2003, at Peabody Healthcare Center.

She taught school in Fort Wayne, Silver Lake and retired from Laketon Elementary School in 1973. Following her retirement she taught character education classes to Laketon Elementary students.

She was a member and former board director of the Wabash County Farm Bureau and was named Farm Wife of the Year. She was grand marshal of the Laketonian Days parade.

She graduated from Laketon High School in 1926 and earned her Normal Teacher's License in 1928 and a bachelor's degree in 1964, both from Manchester College, and later a master's degree from the University of Saint Francis. She was a former member of Laketon United Methodist Church.

She was born in Wabash County Jan. 29, 1908, to Joseph L. and Inez M. (Morford) Speicher.

She married Benjamin F. Snyder March 24, 1933. He died in March 1987.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Dave and Bonnie Snyder of Angola and Donald and Frankie Snyder of Edinboro, Pa.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Marie and Al Harris of Ligonier and Margaret and James Scroggin of Newport, Pa.; 13 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were four brothers.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at DeLaughter-McKee Mortuary North Manchester Chapel, with Pastor Randell Webb officiating. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery, Servia.

Robert Loechner

FORT WAYNE — Robert Loechner, 80, died Saturday, March 22, 2003, in Fort Wayne.

He was co-founder, owner and vice president of G&L Corp. and a veteran of the U.S. Army.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife, Marjorie; two sons, Steven R. Loechner of Roanoke and William Loechner of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Karen Hoffman of LaOtto and Janet Kidston of Naperville, Ill; two sisters, Joyce Long and Gloria Gearhart, both of Fort Wayne; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at St. Matthews Church, 2305 Goshen Road.

Calling will be Tuesday from 1 to 3 and 7 to 9 p.m. at Covington Memorial Funeral Home, 8404 Covington Road and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the church.

Ilene Wise

KENDALLVILLE — Ilene F. Wise died Sunday, March 23, 2003, at KSB Hospital in Dixon, Ill.

Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Calling will be today from 6 to 8 p.m. and one hour before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Bashor Children's Home, P.O. Box 843, Goshen, IN 46527-0843.

Mildred Felger

FORT WAYNE — Mildred S. Felger, 99, died at 1:50 p.m. Saturday, March 22, 2003, at Kingston Care Center in Fort Wayne, where she had resided for the past four years.

She was a homemaker and member of St. John Lutheran Church-Lake Township. She lived on the family farm in rural Allen County until moving to Fort Wayne in 1960.

Mrs. Felger

She was born in Lake Township March 7, 1904, to William and Anna (Boschet) Weisenburger.

She married August H. Felger July 16, 1926. He died April 16, 1969.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Delmar E. "Bud" and Marilyn Felger of rural Fort Wayne; a daughter and son-in-law, Marcella and Elmer H. Schaefer of rural Fort Wayne; six grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were two brothers.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church-Lake Township, 7914 W. Cook Road, with Pastor Ralph Easterhaus officiating. Burial will be at Eel River Cemetery, Allen County.

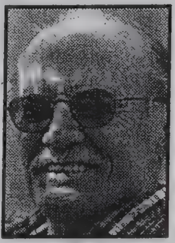
Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 8 p.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the church or to the donor's choice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Charles Horn

LIGONIER — Charles Lee Horn, 67, died at 8:45 p.m. Thursday, March 20, 2003, at Byron Health Center, Fort Wayne.


Mr. Horn

He lived in the Ligonier area most of his life. He was a self-employed contractor and a veteran of the U.S. Army. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and woodworking. He loved animals and, for many years, was a member of the Ligonier Plan Commission, Stone's Trace Historical Society and the Jaycees.

He was born in Elkhart County Nov. 26, 1935, to William R. and Lillian H. (Irey) Horn.

He married Janet VanSkyock Feb. 11, 1956, in Bremen. She survives in Goshen.

Also surviving are a son, Charles Bruce Horn of Portage, Mich.; three daughters, Lori McKibbin of Hamilton, Ohio, Christine Walters of Syracuse and Angela Beer of Goshen; a brother, James Horn of Topeka; three sisters, Martha Wyatt of Howe, Beverly Renkenberger of Kendallville and Charlene Heintzelman of Cromwell; seven grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Joe Horn; and two sisters, Wilma Bentley and Barbara Caple.

Memorial services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. John Lutton officiating. Burial will be in Eden Cemetery, Topeka.

Calling will be two hours before services.

Memorials are to Alzheimer's Disease Research, P.O. Box 12950, Clarksburg, MD 20871-1950.

Margaret Longardner

LIGONIER — Margaret R. Longardner, 76, wife of former Ligonier mayor and current Councilman Glenn Longardner, died at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, March 23, 2003, at Avalon Village, Ligonier, after suffering a stroke on Tuesday.

She moved from Goshen to Ligonier in 1977. She was a housewife and operated a day care in her home for 12 years while in Goshen. She was a member of Ligonier United Methodist Church. She had also been involved with the Perry Township Home Economics Club, Ligonier Historical Society, Ligonier Study Club and was secretary of the Ligonier Chamber of Commerce from 1977 to 2000. She was instrumental in the founding of the West Noble Day Care and served on its board.

She was born on a farm near Spencerville June 27, 1926, to Loyd and Mabel Ruth (Crall) Schaaf.

She married Glenn Longardner Aug. 19, 1945, in Fort Wayne. He survives in Ligonier.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Brian and Kari Longardner of Dunlap and Nevin and Rita Longardner of Columbus, Ohio; two daughters and sons-in-law, Susan and John Peirce of Fort Wayne and Patti and Ed Minnick of Goshen; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Virginia and Stan Graham of Mesa, Ariz., and Marian and Bill Judge of Apache Junction, Ariz.; and seven grandchildren.

Memorial services will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Ligonier United Methodist Church, 466 Townline Road.

Calling will be Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Parkview Noble Hospital Foundation or Ligonier United Methodist Church.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, is in charge of arrangements.

John Ditton

AVILLA — John Mark Ditton, 53, died at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 22, 2003, at Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

He was a discount store manager and lived in the community since moving from Coldwater, Mich., in 1970. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

He was born in Fort Wayne Sept. 26, 1949, to Louis Levin and Bertha C. (Croxton) Ditton.

Surviving are two brothers, George Ditton of Fort Wayne and Dan Ditton of Mead, Colo.; and three sisters, Lois E. Kubiak of San Diego, Almeda Bechtholdt of Lodi, Calif., and Margaret Herron of Avilla.

Graveside services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Fairfield Cemetery in DeKalb County, with Pastor Dean Bearman officiating.

There is no calling.

Gary Foster

COLUMBIA CITY — Gary Leroy "Tiny" Foster, 37, of Noble Township in Noble County, rural Columbia City, died at 5:45 a.m. Sunday, March 23, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana, Fort Wayne, after a sudden illness.

Mr. Foster

He attended Thorncreek Elementary and Middle School and graduated from Columbia City High School in 1984. He spent his entire life in Whitley and Noble counties. He was a member of the North American Hunting and Fishing Club and ABATE of Indiana. He enjoyed his bird, J.D., and his dogs, Jazmine and Noble.

He was employed by Holmes and Co. Inc., Fort Wayne Foundry and Steel Dynamics Inc., Columbia City.

He was born at Whitley County Memorial Hospital, Columbia City, Oct. 6, 1965, to William Walter and Connie S. (Pontzius) Foster.

He married Shawn De-An Harrison July 12, 2001, in Whitley County. She survives in Columbia City.

Also surviving are his parents; two sons, Dean I. Slagal of Churubusco and Jeffrey L. Slagal of Columbia City; two sisters, Billie Jo and Jody M. Foster, both of Columbia City; maternal grandmother, Eleanor Pontzius of Evening Shade, Ark.; several nieces and nephews; four great-nephews; and several aunts and uncles.

Preceding him in death were his paternal grandparents and maternal grandfather; and two uncles.

Services will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, Columbia City, with retired Pastor Samuel Harris officiating. Burial will be at Thorn Cemetery, Ormas.

Calling will be today from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family in care of the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to http://www.demoneygrimes.com.

Daisy Reade

LAGRANGE — Daisy F. Reade, 91, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

She was a homemaker and lived most of her life in LaGrange County.

She was born in Noble County May 1, 1911, to John and Clara (Duke) Huff.

She married Chris H. Reade Sr. June 3, 1928, in Albion. He died March 16, 1983.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, John E. and Jackie Reade of Wolcottville; six grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a son, Chris H. Reade Jr., who died Oct. 10, 1983; one sister; and one brother.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield officiating. Burial will be at Woodruff Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Calling will be today from 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the LaGrange County Cancer Society.

Willadean Rodman

LIGONIER — Willadean Rodman, 88, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at Oak Leaf Village Nursing Home.

Mrs. Rodman was born Jan. 29, 1915, in Albion, to Charles and Beulah (Ott) Franks. She married Harold Stanger in 1937, and he preceded her in death in 1954. She then married Howard Rodman in 1972, and he preceded her in death in 2002.

Mrs. Rodman

She was a homemaker.

She was a member of Cosperville Baptist Church. She enjoyed cooking, card games and board games.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Judy and Lester Bender of Wawaka and Bonnie and Wayne Spallinger of Pleasant Lake; a stepson and stepdaughter-in-law, Howard and Jill Rodman of Union, Mich.; two sisters, Elizabeth Boyd of Kendallville and Margaret Bond of Wolcottville; 15 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a daughter, Rosalie Heintzelman; a son, Gary Stanger; a stepson, Harold Rodman; a brother, Charles Franks; a sister, Valura Marker; and one great-grandchild.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Orr Funeral Home, Ligonier, with the Rev. James Barnes officiating. Calling is from 4 to 7 p.m. today and one hour prior to services on Wednesday.

Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Rev. William Sexton

MUNCIE — The Rev. William E. Sexton, 72, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

He graduated from Bartlesville (Okla.) College High School, The College of Wooster (Ohio) and McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He was a Presbyterian minister and served churches in Alaska, Colorado, Oklahoma, Iowa and Illinois. He moved to Muncie in 1988 to serve as interim pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church and also served interim pastorates in Noblesville, Terre Haute, Rockville, Hartford City and Winchester.

He was a member of the Whitewater Valley Presbytery; a leader of the Stephen Ministries at First Presbyterian Church; and member of Magic City Music Men's Barbershop Chorus.

He was born in Bartlesville, Okla., March 30, 1930.

Surviving are his wife of nearly 50 years, Sandy Febles Sexton; two sons and daughters-in-law, Steven and Debbie Sexton of Louisville, Ky., Tim and Trish Sexton of Tucson, Ariz.; and two daughters and one son-in-law, Tori Hofer of Ankeny, Iowa, and Nannette and Jay Gunn of Mt. Vernon, Iowa; seven grandchildren, Jason and Christopher Sexton, Eric Hofer, Holly and Jordan Gunn and Abby and Caleb Sexton; and three great-grandchildren, Colin, Ashlyn and Morgan.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. in the chapel of First Presbyterian Church, Muncie, with the Rev. Ron Naylor officiating. Burial will be at 3 p.m. at South Milford Cemeterv.

Calling will be Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Meeks Mortuary and 30 minutes before services at the church.

Memorials are to The College of Wooster, Gault Alumni Center, Wooster, OH 44691, or to First Presbyterian Church, 1400 W. Riverside, Muncie, IN 46304.

Condolences may be e-mailed to themeeksmortuary@iquest.net.

John Ditton

AVILLA — Graveside services for John Mark Ditton, 53, have been changed to 11 a.m. Friday at Fairfield Cemetery in DeKalb County.

Mr. Ditton died at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 22, 2003, at Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

There is no calling.

Mary Smith

AVILLA — Mary L. (Doan) Smith, 58, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Fort Wayne Dec. 18, 1944, to Alvie and Vivian (Emberly) Doan.

Surviving are her husband, Allen John Smith III; four sons, Russell Smith of Clearwater, Fla., James Smith of Fort Wayne, Heath Smith of Kendallville and Bradley Smith of Albion; a daughter, Rhonda Powers of Fort Wayne; a brother, David Doan of Fort Wayne; a sister, Margaret Clayton of Wawaka; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Tom Mungovan Funeral Home in Fort Wayne. Burial will be at Highland Park Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 p.m. until service time.

Ilene Wise

KENDALLVILLE — Ilene F. Wise, 88, formerly of Kendallville, died Sunday, March 23, 2003, at KSB Hospital, Dixon, Ill.

She was a homemaker and had done clerical work for J.C. Penney in Kendallville and Burmah L.P. Gas in Angola. She was a member of Faith United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women's Morning Circle and Ruth Circle, all in Kendallville, and was an associate member of the Christ United Methodist Church in Leesburg, Fla., and the Church of the Brethren in Mt. Morris, Ill.

She and her husband moved from Kendallville to Mt. Morris, Ill., six years ago.

She was born near Edgerton, Ohio, Nov. 29, 1914, to George and Anna (Jerger) Moore.

She married Raymond M. Wise Aug. 30, 1933, in Goshen. He survives in Mount Morris, Ill.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Delano and Pat Wise of Auburn Hills, Mich.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Marilyn and Terry Kurtz or LaGrange and Mary Lou and Edward Garrison of Mt. Morris; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death was a brother, Carl Moore; and one grandson, Kevin Freiburger.

Services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, with the Rev. James Toole officiating. Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be one hour before services at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to http://www.hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 25 Kendallville, Indiana

Vernon 'Gene' Stebing

AUBURN — Vernon "Gene" Stebing, 78, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at 6:17 a.m. in Lutheran Hospital of Fort Wayne.

Mr. Stebing was an insurance agent for Western Southern Life Insurance Co. for 23 years, retiring in 1984. He was a retired member of the Auburn Fire Department.

He was a member of the Auburn First United Methodist Church and DeKalb Masonic Lodge 214, Auburn. He volunteered at the Red Cross Bloodmobile and the DeKalb County Christmas Bureau. He was a DeKalb High School track and field volunteer and was an avid fan of DeKalb High School sports, especially of basketball.

He was a U.S. Army sergeant and a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

He was born Oct. 6, 1924, in Auburn to Jacob and Maggie (Ferguson) Stebing.

He married Janice Thornburg on March 10, 1946, in Farmland, Ind. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, David and Deb Stebing of Fort Wayne; two daughters and sons-in-law, Sally and David Wagoner of Kendallville and Cyndi and Bob Baker of Greenwood; a brother, Everett Stebing; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a sister, June Stebing, and two brothers, George N. and Robert P. Stebing.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in Auburn First United Methodist Church, 1203 E. Seventh St., with the Rev. William Kaster and the Rev. Paul Burris officiating. Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery of Auburn, with military graveside services by American Legion Post 97.

Calling is Friday from 3-8 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. A Masonic service will begin at 7 p.m. Friday, conducted by DeKalb Lodge 214.

Memorials are to the Auburn First United Methodist Church, DeKalb High School Athletic Association or the DeKalb Heart Fund.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Robert Hicks

LIGONIER — Robert L. Hicks, 63, died at 8:22 p.m. Monday, March 24, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, of heart complications.

He was a lifelong resident of Ligonier. He had owned the Dari-Point Restaurant from 1972 to 1985 and was currently working as a truck driver for Kreager Brothers Excavating.

He was a member of Ligonier Masonic Lodge and the Elks. He enjoyed auctions, playing cards and being with his grandchildren.

He was born in Edgerton, Ohio, Nov. 20, 1939, to Rupert and Eva (Adair) Hicks.

He married Carolyn Mullet July 18, 1959, in Topeka. She survives in Ligonier.

Also surviving are a son, Todd Hicks of Kendallville; five daughters and four sons-in-law, Tracey Hicks of Ligonier, Tami and Robert Vandal of Syracuse, Teri and Kyle Workman of South Whitley, Tana and Jack Birch of Syracuse and Tricia and Tony Kirkpatrick of Albion; two brothers and sisters-in-law, R. Ray and Connie Hicks of Fort Wayne and Glen and Marcia Hicks of Ligonier; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Joan and Jim Meroney of Watertown, S.D., and Phyllis and Jim Hile of Ligonier; and 10 grandchildren.

Services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Ligonier United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Mitch Hile and Diana Siegel officiating. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the church with an Elks memorial service at 8 p.m.

Memorials are to the Elks National Foundation.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

Susie Lehman

SHIPSHEWANA — Susie F. Lehman, 77, died at 12:20 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at LaGrange County Community Hospital.

She was a homemaker and member of the Old Order Amish Church. She was a lifelong resident of LaGrange County.

She was born in LaGrange County July 5, 1925, to Tobias and Ada (Mast) Yoder.

She married Levi F. Lehman April 17, 1947, in LaGrange County. He died March 11, 1970.

Surviving are eight daughters and four sons-in-law, Edna, Elsie and Mary Alice Lehman, all of Shipshewana, Ada Lehman of Middlebury, Esther and Wilbur Bontrager of Shipshewana, Irene and Howard Gingerich of Milford, Lou Ida and LaVern Stutzman of Nappanee and Sue Anna and Eli Lambright of Shipshewana; five sons and four daughters-in-law, Mervin and Effie Lehman of Fresno, Ohio, Daniel and Marlene Lehman of Shipshewana, Nelson and Esther Lehman of Goshen, Levi Jr. and LeAnna Lehman of Millersburg and Elroy Lehman of Albany, N.H.; 44 grandchildren; 49 great-grandchildren; six sisters and five brothers-in-law, Alice and Ezra Yoder of Stratton, Colo., Mary and Alvin Troyer of Plain City, Ohio, Effie Troyer of Goshen, Ada Mae and William Yoder of Nappanee, Ida and Lester Beachy and Esther and Howard Miller, all of LaGrange; four brothers and three sisters-in-law, Amos Yoder of Avilla, Dan and Doris Yoder of Goshen, Ernest and Edna Yoder of Shipshewana and Clarence and Idena Yoder of Goshen.

She was preceded in death by a granddaughter, a great-granddaughter, three brothers, and one sister.

Services will be Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the Jerry Miller residence at 3875 N. C.R. 850W, Shipshewana, with Bishops Leroy Miller and Jerry Miller and the Rev. Myron Miller officiating. Burial will be at Yoder Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling will be today after 1 p.m. and all day Thursday at Mrs. Lehman's home.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Terry Jackson

WARSAW — Terry Lee Jackson, 53, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at Kosciusko Community Hospital.

He was a dump-truck driver for Jack Keirn Excavating and had driven for Pierceton Trucking for 17 years.

He was born in Rochester.

Surviving are his father and mother, Clint and Josephine Jackson of North Manchester; his wife, Kathy; three stepsons, Scott Dietrich of Wabash, Troy Dietrich of Ligonier and Benjamin Kline of Jasper; three daughters, Diane Jackson and Angela Zumbaugh, both of Wabash, and Brandi Kline of North Manchester; a brother, Timothy Jackson of Laketon; a sister, Sharon Hopkins of Laketon; five grandchildren; and seven stepgrandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at DeLaughter-McKee Mortuary, North Manchester Chapel. Burial will be in Akron Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m.

Samuel Borntrager

TOPEKA — Samuel T. Borntrager, 76, died at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at his home after suffering a stroke.

He was a lifelong resident of the area and was self-employed as a rug weaver. He was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He was born in Ohio March 25, 1927, to Tobias C. and Nellie M. (Knepp) Borntrager.

He married Katie Miller Nov. 29, 1949, in Topeka. She survives.

Also surviving are two brothers, Crist T. Borntrager of Goshen and Levi Borntrager of Sumerduck, Va.; a sister and brother-in-law, Katie and Allen Yoder of Jamesport, Mo.; two half brothers, Aden Gingerich of Farmington, N.M., and Moses Gingerich of Sarasota, Fla.; a stepbrother, Eli Gingerich of Middlebury; and a stepsister, Ida Schulz of Cheraw, Colo.

Preceding him in death were a brother and two stepbrothers.

Services will be Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the Lloyd O. Lambright residence at 5390 W. C.R. 600S, Topeka, with Calvin T. Lambright officiating. Burial will be a Miller Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be Wednesday after noon and all day Thursday at the family residence at 5950 W. C.R. 600S, Topeka.

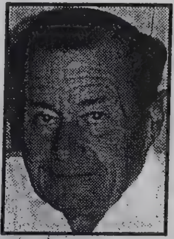
Pallbearers will be Joni Bontrager, Ervin Junior Miller, Andrew Junior Yoder, Nelson Schlabach, Freeman Slabach and Richard Miller.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

Earl Grimm

TOPEKA — Earl R. "Pete" Grimm, 80, died at 4 a.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at his home after a lengthy illness.

He lived in the area for over 50 years and was a tool and die maker for Mold Engineering. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in both the Army and Air Force. He was a member of Topeka United Methodist Church and the American Legion in LaGrange. He enjoyed woodworking and fishing.


Mr. Grimm

He was born in Grand Ledge, Mich., April 27, 1922, to Russell and Vira (Doolittle) Grimm.

He married Evelyn Tustison Sept. 1, 1943, in Topeka. She survives.

Also surviving are three daughters and a son-in-law, Beth VanDenmark of Topeka, Alison and Demorris Moore of Topeka and Laura Spiller of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; a brother, Elmer Grimm of Goshen; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at Topeka United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Robert Wyman officiating. Burial will be at Eden Cemetery, Topeka.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Goshen Hospital Home Care & Hospice.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

Emily Patterson

WOLCOTTVILLE — Emily Patterson died at 12:40 a.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at her home. She had been ill since June 2002.

She came from Germany and lived in the area since 1964. She was a homemaker and attended St. Gaspar Catholic Church.

She was born in Hassloch, Germany, to Johannes and Margarethe (Bethke) Forstmann.

She married Tom Patterson June 19, 1965, in Kendallville. He survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Rebecca and Douglas Wolfe of Fort Wayne and Mary and Dave Bledsoe of Auburn; and five grandchildren, Jordan, Isaiah and Hannah Bledsoe and Britiny and Ryan Wolfe; three sisters, Lisa Kremer of Mehring, Germany, Auguste Sandfuchs of Nussdorf, Germany, and Helene Grant of Corsicana, Texas.

Preceding her in death was a daughter, May Ann Patterson.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at St. Gaspar Catholic Church, Rome City, with the Rev. Charles Mullen officiating. A Rosary will precede the service at 9:30 a.m. Burial will be at St. Gaspar Catholic Cemtery, Rome City.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to the church.

Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville is in charge of arrangements.

Joan Nichols

FORT WAYNE — Joan B. Nichols, 77, died at 1:10 a.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

She retired in 1994 from Fort Wayne Community Schools after more than 20 years of service. She was a member of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church.

She was born in Fort Wayne Dec. 7, 1925, to Charles and Tillie (Holocher) Johnson.

Surviving are two daughters, Linda White of Fort Wayne and Karen Nelms of Orlando, Fla.; a son, David Nichols of Indianapolis; six grandchildren; and two sisters, Marcella Gamble and Irene Snyder, both of Fort Wayne.

Preceding her in death were a sister, Mildred Kleinrichert; and two brothers, Oscar and Albert Johnson.

Services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church at the corner of Reed and Trier roads, with the Rev. Father Chris Young officiating. Burial will be at Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the church.

Herbert Branning

Mr. Branning

FORT WAYNE — Herbert M. Branning, 73, died Monday, March [illegible] 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He was a baker at Perfection Bakery, retiring in 1992. He was a member of American Legion Post 241 and Alcoholics Anonymous. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean conflict.

He was born in Fort Wayne April 1, 1929.

His wife, Joyce A., died Sept. 16, 1997.

Surviving are three sons, Stephen M. Branning of Houston, Texas, Matthew A. Branning of Fort Wayne and Michael A. Branning of Albion; a brother, Leonard Branning of Arcola; and three grandchildren.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home. Burial will be at Lindenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorials are to Visiting Nurse Service & Hospice or Cancer Services of Allen County.

Paul Gotsch

FORT WAYNE — Paul W. Gotsch, 88, died Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He retired in 1979 as president of Gotsch Affiliates Inc. and had taught advertising at the former Indiana University Extension in Fort Wayne. He was past president of the Congregation at Bethelehem Lutheran Church and a former board member of Concordia Lutheran High School and Lutheran Hospital.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

His wife, Lorraine M., died in 2002.

Surviving are a daughter, Geneva L. Flora of Fort Wayne; two sons, the Rev. Thomas E. Gotsch of Basking Ridge, N.J., and Stephen L. Gotsch of Wolcottville; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Eugenia E. Grant of Springfield, Mo., and Marcella Hensel of Fort Wayne.

Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at Epiphany Lutheran Church, Maplecrest Road. Burial will be in Concordia Cemetery Gardens.

Calling will be Thursday from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, 6131 St. Joe Road, and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the church.

THE NEW ERA
MARCH 26 Albion, Indiana

Wayne Nichols

COLUMBIA CITY – Wayne A. Nichols, 72, died at 5 a.m. Thursday, March 20, 2003, at his home.

He attended high school in Orland. He worked more than 30 years as a heavy equipment operator and was employed by three different companies, retiring in 1993 from fox Contractors Corp., Fort Wayne and Indianapolis.

He had lived in Whitley County since 1951. He served in the Korean War from 1951 to 1953 and was a member of American Legion Post 98. He enjoyed building kit cars and dune buggies.

He was born in Steuben County March 18, 1931, to Ford G. and Dorthea (Pennick) Nichols.

He married Deloris L. Schrader September 8, 1951, at Grace Lutheran Church in Columbia City. She died December 18, 2002.

Surviving are a son, Dennis Nichols of Columbia city; four daughters and three sons-in-law, Debra and Robert Bennett, Kathy and Michael Webb, Lora and Jeff Herendeen, all of Columbia City; and Lisa England of Avilla; grandchildren, Michelle and Barry Anderson of Churubusco, Justin England of Garrett, and Jenna and Ethan England of Avilla; a great-grandson, Quincy England of Garrett; a brother and sister-in-law, W. Dean and Marie Nichols of Angola; and a sister, Betty Berry of Fort Wayne.

Preceding him in death were two brothers, Gerald and Ford Nichols.

Services were Sunday, March 23, 2003, at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, with Pastor Barry Faucett of New Hope Wesleyan Church officiating. Burial with military rites by American Legion Post 98 was at Nolt Cemetery, Columbia City.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society or Parkview Whitley Home Health Care and Hospice.

Bryan Lash

AVILLA – Bryan Lee Lash, 36, died at 4:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2003, at his home.

He was born in Kendallville March 26, 1966, to Thomas P. and Sandra K. (Krock) Lash. They survive.

Also surviving are a son, Bryan K. Lash; a daughter, Amber N. Lash, both of Huntertown; a brother and sister-in-law, Tracey C. and Melinda Lash of Avilla; and a sister and brother-in-law, Leah C. and Jesse Rigsby of Wolcottville.

Services were held Saturday, March 22, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with Pastor Dean Bearman officiating. Burial was in Sweet Cemetery, Albion.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Merlin A. Rice

Merlin A. Rice, 76, of Okeechobee, FL, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Sunday, March 16, 2003, at Jupiter Medical Center in Jupiter, FL.

He was born on December 1, 1926, in Fort Wayne.

A U.S. Navy veteran, he was a truck driver for Dailey Asphalt Co., president and business manager for Teamsters Union Local 197 and business manager for 4114, retiring in 1986.

His memberships included First United Methodist Church in Okeechobee, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Angola Elks Lodge 2398, Okeechobee Moose Lodge 1753, Okeechobee American Legion 0064, Okeechobee Shrine Club, Fort Wayne Mizpah Temple, 32nd Degree Mason Lodge 237, U.S. LST Association, Okeechobee County Democratic Party state committeeman, State of Democratic Party Vice Chair Small County Coalition and Vice Chair 16th Congressional District.

Survivors include two daughters, Patricia J. Felver of South Whitley and Trois A. (Dennis) Ray of Columbia City; two sons, Merlin R. (Alice) Rice of Albion, and Jimmie A. (Cheryl) Rice of Columbia City; nine grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

Services were held Saturday March 22, 2003, at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Home for Funerals in Fort Wayne. Masonic service was held Friday night. Burial was in Uniontown Cemetery, Yoder.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to Shriner's Children's Hospital.

THE NEW ERA
MARCH Albion, Indiana
26

Robert L. Hicks

LIGONIER — Robert L. Hicks, 63, of Ligonier, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, of cardiac complications.

He was born November 20, 1939, at Edgerton, Ohio, to Rupert and Eva (Adair) Hicks.

He was a resident of the Ligonier area most of his lifetime.

He married Carolyn Mullet on July 19, 1959, in Topeka. She survives.

He had owned the Dari-Point Restaurant in Ligonier from 1972 to 1985. He was currently working as a truck driver for Kreager Brothers Excavating. He was a member of Ligonier Masonic Lodge and Ligonier Elks. He enjoyed going to auctions and playing cards. He also enjoyed his grandchildren.

Surviving in addition to his wife are one son, Todd Hicks of Kendallville; and five daughters and four sons-in-law: Tracey Hicks of Ligonier; Tami and Robert Vandal of Syracuse; Teri and Kyle Workman of South Whitley; Tana and Jack Birch of Syracuse; and Tricia and Tony Kirkpatrick of Albion. There are ten grandchildren.

Also surviving are two brothers and sisters-in-law, R. Ray and Connie Hicks of Fort Wayne, and Glen and Marcia Hicks of Ligonier. Two sisters and brothers-in-law also survive, Joan and Jim Meroney of Watertown, SD, and Phyllis and Jim Hile of Ligonier.

The memorial service will be held Friday, March 28, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. at Ligonier United Methodist Church with the Rev. Mitch Hile and Diana Siegel officiating.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at Ligonier United Methodist Church with Elks Memorial Service being held at 8 p.m.

Clarence Best

AUBURN - Clarence E. Best, 73, died Thursday, March 20, 2003, at 9:17 p.m. in DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Best worked in assembly at Dana Corp. in Auburn for 40 years. He had lived in Auburn for 73 years.

We was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving from 1946 to 1949.

He was a lifetime member of Garrett American Legion Post 178 and a member of the Garrett Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1892, the Garrett Eagles 1357, Auburn Moose Lodge, F.O.P. Fort Wayne, and UAW 164.

He was born November 10, 1929, in Corunna to Oscar and Pearl (May) Best.

He married Mary L. Fluke on January 24, 1953, in Garrett. She died November 20. 1996.

Surviving are three brothers, Eugene Best of Albion, Norman Best of Indianapolis and Dick Best of Lafayette.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Ralph, Donald, and Howard Best, and two sisters, Helen Bassinger and Martha Rowe Rudnicki.

Services were held Monday, March 24, 2003, at Thomas Funeral Home, Garrett, with Rev. Arthur G. Ferry, Jr. officiating. Burial was in Roselawn Cemetery of Auburn. Military graveside honors were conducted by the Garrett posts of the American Legion and V.F.W.

Memorials are to the Garrett post of the American Legion.

Burial will be in Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell. with Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, in charge of arrangements.

Preferred memorials are to Elks National Foundation.

THE NEW ERA

MARCH Albion, Indiana

26

Dorothy Weaver

LAGRANGE – Dorothy Lynn (Dottie) Weaver, 14, of Wabash, died Friday, March 21, 2003, at Vernon Manor Children's Home in Wabash.

Born in LaGrange, Miss Weaver moved to Wabash in August 1995.

She was born on March 18, 1989. Her parents are Joseph and Valerie Weaver of Wolcottville and Jenell Burger and Brett Maskow of Howe. They survive.

Also surviving are three sisters, Hailey Weaver of Wolcottville, and Ashlyn and Massie Maskow of Howe; two brothers, David Joseph Ty Weaver of Howe and Kolby Weaver of Wolcottville; paternal grandparents David and Sarah Weaver of Howe, and Nelva Hawks of Wawaka; maternal grandparents Fred and Vedie Sue Burger of Howe, and Billy and Deb Slone of Somerset, KY, and maternal great-grandparents Ivan and Thelma Burger of Howe and Renda Slone of Trenton, FL; and two treasured friends, Tom and Barb Maskow of Howe.

Services were Sunday, March 23, 2003, at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange with the Rev. Michael McKinney officiating. Burial was in the Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Memorials are to the Vernon Manor Children's Home in Wabash.

Wilmer G. Leitch

ALBION – Wilmer G. Leitch, 75, a resident of Albion, died at 3:25 p.m. Tuesday, March 18, 2003, at the family residence following a lengthy illness.

Mr. Leitch was born on April 14, 1927, in Green Township in Noble County, a son of Dallas and Mary Kesling Leitch, and spent his formative years in that area. He was educated in the rural Noble County schools, and as a young man served in both the Army Air Corps and Merchant Marine.

On August 6, 1949, he was married in Albion to Mary Ellen Ohlwine. The couple lived in Michigan for a period when Mr. Leitch was affiliated with General Motors and moved to their present home in Albion in 1981. He retired in 1989 as a truck driver for Sunrise Trucking Company. He was a member of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Albion, Albion American Legion Post 246, and the Noble County Historical Society.

The surviving relatives include his wife Mary, to whom he was married for over 53 years; his father, Dallas C. Leitch of Kendallville; a son and daughter-in-law, Douglas A. and Andrea Leitch of Pinconning, Mich.; a daughter and son-in-law, Pamela and Keith Bissonette of Midland, Mich.; five brothers and four sisters-in-law, Leo and Josephine Leitch of Bay City, Mich., Willard and Effie Leitch of Pineville, La., Ray and Barbara Leitch of Danville, Iowa; Richard and Nancy Leitch of Fort Wayne; and Daniel Leitch of Ocala, Fla.; four sisters and two brothers-in-law, Freida Leach of Garrett; Marcille and Joseph Leatherman of Albion; Joan Houser of Shipshewana; and Rosalie and Keith Johnson of Elkhart; four granddaughters, and five great-grandchildren.

In addition to his mother he was preceded in death by a sister, Mary Ellen Leitch, and by a brother, James Leitch.

Leitch

Memorials services will be Saturday, March 29, 2003, at the Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with Rev. Austin W. Fergusson, pastor of Asbury United Methodist Church, officiating. Interment will be in the Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam. For those who wish, memorials may be directed to Asbury United Methodist Church, or the American Lung Association.

Levi Bontrager

TOPEKA — Levi N. Bontrager, 88, died at 8:17 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital, following a lengthy illness.

He was a farmer and member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He was born in Centerville, Mich., March 30, 1914, to Noah and Anna (Yoder) Bontrager.

He married Alice Bontrager March 17, 1938, in Topeka. She survives.

Also surviving are five daughters and sons-in-law, Mary and Leroy Miller of Middlebury, Edna and Crist Miller of Goshen, Rudy and Wyman Yoder and Wilma and Nelson Miller, all of Topeka, and Freeda and Freeman Lehman of Shipshewana; four sons and daughters-in-law, Glen and Glenna Bontrager and Ervin and Karen Bontrager, all of Goshen, Ray and Anna Mae Bontrager of Shipshewana and Levi Jr. and Loretta Bontrager of Topeka; 45 grandchildren; 111 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; three step-great-grandchildren; and several step-great-grandchildren; and one sister, Lizzie Graber of Shipshewana.

He was preceded in death by twin daughters; four grandchildren; a daughter-in-law; nine brothers, Eli, Sam, Chris, Andrew, William, Ammon, Amos, Harvey and Irvan; and one sister, Mattie Yoder.

Services will be Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at his home at 9415 W. C.R. 300S, Topeka, with Bishop Sam Beechy and home ministers officiating. Burial will be in Bontrager Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling will be today after 1 p.m. and all day Friday.

Margaret Hall

CROMWELL — Margaret Louise Hall, 83, died at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday, March 26, 2003.

She was a homemaker and attended Trinity Assembly of God Church in Ligonier. She enjoyed flowers, gardening, canning and crocheting.

She was born in Albee Township, Mich., Feb. 2, 1920, to Ellsworth and Mary (Near) Larkins.

She married Kenneth Arthur Hall March 30, 1930, in Tulsa, Okla. He survives in Cromwell.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Arlene Boose and her fiance Jack of Flint, Mich., and Verna and David Petroskye of Ross Commons, Mich.; three sons and daughters-in-law, Dale and Jessie Hall of Cromwell, Larry and Sharon Hall of the Upper Peninsula, Mich., and Stanley and Marlene Hall of Cromwell; two brothers, Elmer Larkins of Syracuse and Bruce Larkins of Heise, Mich.; three sisters, Alice Briske of Flint, Mich., Wilma Mair of Albright, Mich., and Geraldine Oakes of St. Charles, Mich.; 17 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Howard, and a sister, Lula.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Trinity Assembly of God Church in Ligonier, with Pastor William Parks officiating. Burial will be in Michigan at a later date.

Calling will be Friday from 3 to 7 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier.

Memorials are to Whitley County Hospice.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct errors.

Emily Patterson

WOLCOTTVILLE — Emily Patterson died at 12:40 a.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at her home. She had been ill since June 2002.

She came from Germany and lived in the area since 1964. She was a homemaker and attended St. Gaspar Catholic Church.

She was born in Hassloch, Germany, to Johannes and Margarethe (Bethke) Forstmann.

She married Tom Patterson June 19, 1965, in Kendallville. He survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Rebecca and Douglas Wolfe of Fort Wayne and Mary and Dave Bledsoe of Auburn; and five grandchildren, Jordan, Isaiah and Hannah Bledsoe and Britiny and Ryan Wolfe; three sisters, Lisa Kremer of Mehring, Germany, Auguste Sandfuchs of Nussdorf, Germany, and Helene Grant of Corsicana, Texas.

Preceding her in death was a daughter, Mary Ann Patterson.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at St. Gaspar Catholic Church, Rome City, with the Rev. Charles Mullen officiating. A Rosary will precede the service at 9:30 a.m. Burial will be at St. Gaspar Catholic Cemtery, Rome City.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to Masses or the church.

Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville is in charge of arrangements.

Daisy Kugler

GARRETT — Daisy L. Kugler, 86, died Wednesday, March 26, 2003, at 4:32 p.m., in Miller's Merry Manor nursing home.

Mrs. Kugler was a homemaker and had lived in Garrett for 67 years. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Garrett.

She was born Dec. 6, 1916, in Noble County, to Virgil and Anna (McCoy) Snell.

On Aug. 18, 1936, she married Walter Kugler. He died Oct. 22, 1988.

Surviving are a son, Jerry Kugler of Ashley; two daughters, Vicky Temple of Hawaii and Karen Brown of Garrett; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Nelson Snell.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with the Rev. Arthur G. Ferry Jr. officiating. Burial will be in the Avilla Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the church or DeKalb County Hospice.

E-mail condolences to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Wilmer Leitch

ALBION — Memorial services for Wilmer Leitch, 75, who died March 18 in Albion following a lengthy illness, will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Austin W. Fergusson, pastor of Asbury United Methodist Church, officiating.

Calling will be one hour before services. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Memorials are to Asbury United Methodist Church or the American Lung Association.

Anna Wickey

BERNE — Anna K. Wickey, 77, died Wednesday, March 26, 2003, at home.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Adams County.

Her husband, Levi R., died in 1985.

Surviving are eight sons, Dave L. and Reuben L. Wickey, both of Monroe, Johnny L., Joe L. and Henry L. Wickey, all of Berne, Levi L. Wickey of Geneva , Jake L. Wickey of Decatur and Ervin L. Wickey of LaGrange; six daughters, Katie Schwartz of Berne, Rose Wengard of Bryant and Becky, Adeline, Maryann and Ida Schwartz, all of Monroe; five brothers, Jake K. Hilty of Berne, Joe K. Hilty of LaGrange and Henry K., Elmer K. and John K. Hilty, all of Geneva; seven sisters, Rebecca Eicher of Centerville, Mich., Mary Schwartz of Seymour, Mo., Sylvia Shetler and Maggie Schwartz, both of Berne, Savilla Shetler and Kathryn Schwartz, both of Monroe, and Susie Schwartz of Quaker City, Ohio; 120 grandchildren; and 101 great-grandchildren.

Services will be Saturday at the family home, 1383 W. C.R. 400S, Berne. Burial will be in Schwartz Cemetery, Monroe.

Calling will be today from 2 to 8 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the home.

Yager-Kirchhofer Funeral Home, Berne, is in charge of arrangements.

Jackie Hanefeld

FORT WAYNE — Jackie Hanefeld, 48, of Union City, Mich., formerly of Woodburn, died Wednesday, March 26, 2003, at Laurels of Coldwater, in Michigan.

She had worked in sales at Jim's Motor Sales in Girard, Mich., for the past 12 years and had worked at Fort Wayne Vehicle Auction for several years.

She was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are three daughters, Stephanie Bowers of Payne, Ohio, Stacy Calhoun of Fort Wayne and Nicole Paarlberg of Coldwater; her mother, Luella Vardaman of Fort Wayne; her companion, Jim Snyder of Union City; five brothers, Larry Vardaman of Shipshewana, Jim Vardaman and Don Vardaman, both of Fort Wayne, Deane Vardaman of Woodburn and Steve Vardaman of Sarasota, Fla.; six sisters, Carol Wilkerson of Lima, Ohio, Rosanne Brewer of Rossford, Ohio, Vicky Oerting of Woodburn, Marsha Brewer of Cartesville, Ga., JoAnn Belt of Glendale, Ariz.; and Linda Loscalzo of Cortez, Fla.; and seven grandchildren.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Dutcher Funeral Home, Coldwater, Mich. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery, Girard.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m.

Memorials are to ALS Foundation (Lou Gehrig's Disease).

James Bobilya

FORT WAYNE — James A. Bobilya, 78, died Wednesday, March 26, 2003, at home.

He retired in 1987 after 50 years as a Realtor.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife, Katherine E.; a daughter, Cindy Bobilya Bloom of Fort Wayne; two sons, James A. Bobilya Jr. and Eric Bobilya, both of Fort Wayne; two stepsons, Steven A. Pruitt and Michael W. Pruitt, both of Fort Wayne; four sisters, Roslyn Korn, Nancy Doehrmann, Sandy Mondhank and Mary Lou Johnson, all of Fort Wayne; a brother, Donald Bobilya of LaGrange; nine grandchildren; four stepgrandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Susan Siples; and a son, Michael J. Bobilya.

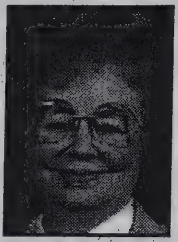
Services will be Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at St. Jude Catholic Church, East State Boulevard at Randallia Drive. Burial will be at Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. and rosary at 7:30 p.m. at Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Home Wayne Street Chapel and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Cancer Services of Allen County, Sisters of Notre Dame Retirement Fund or Masses.

Beatrice Cochran

KENDALLVILLE — Beatrice I. "Bea" Cochran, 86, died Friday, March 28, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home.



Mrs. Cochran

Before retiring in 1992, Mrs. Cochran was the owner and operator of The Cinderella, a women's clothing store in Kendallville. She was a member of First Christian Church in Kendallville.

She was born Oct. 4, 1916, to Lyman and Lucille (Fleck) Hire in Whitley County. She graduated from Kendallville High School. She married George A. Cochran on Feb. 4, 1939, in Kendallville. He preceded her in death on Sept. 13, 2000.

She was survived by two sons and daughters-in-law, Jerry and Joyce Cochran of Ashley and Craig and Mara Cochran of Springfield, Ohio; a daughter and son-in-law, Diana and Charles Poyser of Wolcottville; a brother, Jack Hire of Lancaster, Calif.; nine grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville. The Rev. Thomas Clothier will officiate. Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent to www. hitefuneralhome.com.

Services Held

ROME CITY — Services for **Emily Patterson** were held Friday at 10 a.m. at St. Gaspar Catholic Church in Rome City.

Burial was at St. Gaspar Catholic Cemetery. Pallbearers were Joe Demske Sr., Joe Demske Jr., David Demske, Frank Price, Mike Patterson and Patrick Patterson.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH
Kendallville, Indiana
30

Man spent life dedicated to church, famil

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ANGOLA — William Harrington was passionate about many things, but two of the biggest were his faith and keeping his family together.

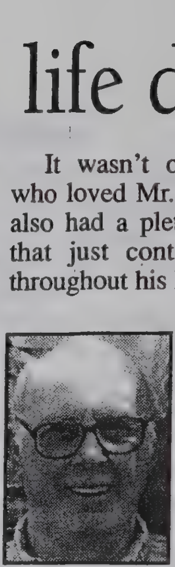
Mr. Harrington, 81, died Tuesday, March 25, 2003, at Northern Lakes Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Angola. He had lived in the nursing home for some time after he suffered a stroke.

"He was an exceptionally loving father," said Mr. Harrington's son, Alvin. "To all his children."

After Mr. Harrington's daughter, Annabelle, died several years ago, he took on the responsibililty of raising her three young children.

"He adopted them," Alvin said. "He wanted to keep them together and keep the Harrington name going. They were young … none of them were teenagers yet."

It wasn't only his family who loved Mr. Harrington. He also had a plethora of friends that just continued to grow throughout his life, Alvin said.


Mr. Harrington

"He was everybody's friend," Alvin said. "He very easily made friends. He was a door greeter at (the Angola) Wal-Mart for a while, which he loved, and then he worked at (the Angola) Kmart. He loved it."

Those were just a couple of the jobs Mr. Harrington took after he retired from truck driving.

"He did things to pass the time, and to meet people," Alvin said. "He also sold shoes and advertising, just so he could get out and be around people."

"He was a very loving man," said Mr. Harrington's daughter-in-law, Sheryl, who is married to his son, Stephen. "He would do anything for you."

He was born Jan. 3, 1922, in Hillsdale, Mich., to William and Florence (Fowler) Harrington. He married Phyllis Ilene Ray on May 19, 1944, and she preceded him in death on Dec. 2, 1992.

He was a World War II Navy veteran. He was an avid churchgoer, attending many churches, and also was an ordained Pentecostal minister.

"Church was very, very important to him," Sheryl said.

He had lived for many years in Ray and Butler. He was a graduate of Sturgis High School in Sturgis, Mich.

Also surviving are sons and daughters-in-law, William Harrington and Robert and Carol Harrington, all of Montgomery, Mich., Barry and Beverly of Angola, Kenneth and Jan Harrington of Frontier, Mic Tracy and Carol and She Harrington, all of Fremont daughter and son-in-law, J and Joe Grotz of New Jersey brother, Dale Harrington Hillsdale; his former wife a best friend, Mary Didion Angola; 37 grandchildren a 35 great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded death by two other daughte Mary Lou and Martha Sue Ha rington, and two grandsor Stephen and William Harrin ton.

Services were held Friday Beams Funeral Home, Fr mont, and military committ services were conducted b members of Fremont Americ Legion Cassel Post No. 25 Burial was in Ray Cemeter Fremont.

Memorials are to Woo bridge Pentecostal Church God, South Hillsdale Roa Camden, MI 49232.

Berlin native followed children to U.S.

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

GARRETT — Johanna Stachel would not have liked the news of the start of the war in Iraq.

Mrs. Stachel, 94, died Tuesday, March 18, one day before the bombing began in Baghdad, and "She would have been terribly upset," according to her daughter, Christel Suter.

Born in Berlin, Germany, Mrs. Stachel survived World War II scrounging for food in the countryside for her children while her husband, Friedrich, worked in research and development, trying to find a material for the canopies of airplanes that would withstand bullets.

Mrs. Stachel

"She was brave, taking care of my brother and me," Christel recalled of her mother. "She ran the family."

Christel met a G.I. during the early days of the Cold War that followed the surrender of Germany and came to the United States to be married and live. Her younger brother, Jorg, followed, and in 1956 she brought her mother and father from Berlin to Indiana.

"She and my father both had to learn English," Christel said, and they then both found jobs at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne. Mrs. Stachel was a dietary supervisor when she retired in 1974.

While Mrs. Stachel hated war (her father died in Russia in the first World War, and her brother died in Russia in World War II) her son, Jorg, became an officer in the Indiana National Guard at Camp Atterbury. Her grandson, Richard Suter, was a paratrooper.

Mrs. Stachel never learne to drive, though her husban tried to teach her. She enjoye the yard at her home in For Wayne, which she and her husband restored from near ruin her daughter said.

According to Christel, he mother didn't really have time for hobbies; she was too busy with life. "But before the war, she and my father, they rowed those boats that they race (sculls) still in England, think," Christel said.

Graveside services were Saturday, March 22, at Ceda Creek Cemetery in Garrett.

THE NEWS SUN
MARCH 30
Kendallville, Indiana

Blue believed in 'hands-on' learning

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

LIGONIER — Before she died March 20 at the age of 81, Helen Blue's life was brimming with interests and activities, friends and fond memories.

She graduated from Indiana University with a degree in physical education, but taught science at Cromwell High School until her husband, Graydon, came home from the war, and she started having babies.

Mrs. Blue

Helen and Graydon, a pharmacist, provided a simple, rural homelife for their three daughters — Gail, Joyce and Rita — on an 80-acre farm. Their days were filled with 4-H, Girl Scouts and picnics by the lake.

"We didn't have a lot of rules," said Gail, "but we knew the boundaries." The girls had chores, but not a lot of housework, because their mother said, "You'll have your whole lives to do housework."

Gail said they always had animals, including tiny lambs they warmed with towels which had been warmed themselves on the oven door and a couple of pet raccoons that spent as much time indoors as out, and often got a ride up the stairway in a basket the girls contrived to haul up folded clothes.

The summer after her freshman year in college, Gail wasn't enthused about joining the family on a vacation to the Grand Canyon, but it was on that trip that her father passed away at the age of 46. Because the airlines were on strike, 44-year-old Helen and her daughters spent three days on a train, escorting the body back to Indiana.

She ran the family drugstore until she sold the business, then went back to teaching middle school science — after 20 years out of the classroom. Joyce was still in high school and Rita was in junior high.

Mrs. Blue, a firm believer in "hands-on" learning, kept a large box of human bones, including two skulls, in her classroom. One former student, Mark Schermerhorn, now a physical therapist for Olympic athletes, said he discovered his love of science in Mrs. Blue's seventh-grade class.

Amy Wechter, a colleague, was fascinated with Mrs. Blue's "secret dance life," which she revealed at the Rotary Follies. Gail said her mother kept dancing until her knees started giving her trouble.

Mrs. Blue was regent of the LaGrange County chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and genealogist Judy Richter joined her on forays all over Noble County, documenting gravestones. Gail found a shoebox of obituary notices, alphabetized and glued on cards, beside her mother's bed.

Lucy Miner, president of Noble County Retired Teachers' Association, said Mrs. Blue would ask aging members if they needed anything and often drove them to meetings.

To Mrs. Blue, the Dari Point in Ligonier was "Cheers," a place where she met friends, and everyone, fondly, knew her name.

THE NEWS SUN

MARCH Kendallville, Indiana

30

LeRoy Rigg

BUTLER — LeRoy B. Rigg, 85, of Butler, died at 10:05 a.m. Saturday, March 29, 2003, at his residence.

On Sept. 18, 1917, in Auburn, he was born to Phillip and Anetta (Myers) Rigg. He married Leon Wallace on May 8, 1937, in Auburn. She survives.

He was a machine operator for Warner Gear Corp. in Auburn for 33 years and retired in 1975. He also worked for the Culligan Water Service in Auburn and Albright Corp. in Waterloo.

Mr. Rigg was a member of the Waterloo Church of the Nazarene, and served as Sunday School superintendent for 30 years.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are: a son, Dale Rigg, Butler, and three grandchildren, Eric, Morgan and Brianna Rigg.

A daughter, Barbara Rigg, and a sister, Pearl Keesler, preceeded him in death.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, with the Rev. William Smith officiating. Burial will be in Cedar Lake Cemetery, Waterloo.

Calling will be from 1 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Waterloo Church of the Nazarene.

Richard Culbertson

AUBURN — Richard "Dick" Culbertson, 70, of Sarasota, Fla., formerly from Auburn, died at 1:55 a.m. Saturday, March 29, 2003, in Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Sarasota, Fla.

On June 17, 1932, in DeKalb County, he was born to Ross and Agnes (Leis) Culbertson. He married Marlene Purdy on Aug. 1, 1953, in Auburn. She survives.

He was retired from Dana Corp., and a member of the Moose Lodge in Auburn and Sarasota.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are: three sons and two daughters-in-law, Terry L. Culbertson, Sarasota, Fla., Ronald L. and Mary Culbertson, Auburn, and Scott L. and Kim Culbertson, Garrett; two brothers, Donald K. Culbertson, St. Joe, and Eugene "Gene" A. Culbertson, Kendallville; a sister, DeEtta Close, Auburn; and three grandchildren, Tim, Andy and Cailey Culbertson.

Two brothers, Paul and Arthur Culbertson; and a sister, Wilma Beuchel, preceeded him in death.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Calling will be from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Peggy Meade

WOLF LAKE — Peggy D. Meade, 44, of Wolf Lake, died Friday, March 28, 2003, at the Kendallville Manor Health Care, Kendallville.

On Oct. 4, 1958, in Huntington, she was born to Henry and Mary (Campbell) Meade.

Surviving are: a brother, Lynn Campbell, Larwill; a sister, Rose Howe, Elkhart; two nieces, Dawn Meade, Wolf Lake, and Carrie Salazar, Ligonier; a great nephew, Derek Meade, Wolf Lake; and a great niece, Daleyna Meade, Wolf Lake.

A sister, Karen E. Farmer, preceeded her in death.

There is no funeral service or visitation.

Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, is in charge of arrangements.

Donna Seidner

SYRACUSE — Donna I. Seidner, 73, died at 8:27 p.m. Saturday, March 29, 2003, in Miller's Merry Manor.

She had retired from Johnson Controls after 40 years as an inspector. She was a member of Burr Oak United Methodist Church and enjoyed playing bingo, dominoes and sewing and crocheting.

She was born in Sparta Township Aug. 14, 1929, to Wayne and Lena (LeCount) Thunander.

Surviving are three daughters, Peggy Bailey of Syracuse, Penny Zehr of Wolcottville and Sue Ann Nowlin of Fort Wayne; a son, Mike Seidner of Phoenix, Ariz.; a brother-in-law, Virgil Price of Ligonier; two sisters, Ruth Knox and Anna Patrick, both of Ligonier; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Biete.

Services will be Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home, with the Rev. Mark Burritt officiating. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery at a later date.

Calling will be Tuesday from 4 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society or Burr Oak Church.

Lavonne Cory

LIGONIER — Lavonne B. Cory, 84, died at 5:45 p.m. Sunday, March 30, 2003, at Oak Leaf Village.

She was a lifetime area resident. She had worked for Master Garment Co., Kidd & Co., and retired from American State Bank in 1982. She was a member of Ligonier United Methodist Church and Samaritan Circle. She was president of the Rural Letter Carriers Auxiliary and served on the library board.

She was born in Goshen Oct. 21, 1918, to Joseph and Prudance (Fuller) Lepird.

She married Melvin R. Cory Nov. 4, 1945, in Ligonier Methodist Church. He survives in Ligonier.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Randall and Vickie Cory of Syracuse; a sister, Jeanette Conner of Arizona; a half-brother Ted Lepird of Fort Wayne; a granddaughter, Sarah of Syracuse; a stepgranddaughter, Erina Quackenbush of Garrett; a stepgrandson, Andrew Finnigan of Schaumburg, Ill.; and step-great-grandchildren, Nicholas, Michael and Kali.

A brother, Burl Lepird, preceded her in death.

Graveside services will be Monday, April 7, 2003, at 1 p.m. at Oak Park Cemetery, with the Rev. Michael Heinbaugh officiating. A procession will leave Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home at 12:30 p.m. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorials are to the United Parkinson Foundation, 833 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607.

Mary Bontrager

MIDDLEBURY — Mary M. Bontrager, 85, died at 11:45 p.m. Sunday, March 30, 2003, at her home.

She lived in the area most of her life. She was a homemaker and member of the Old Order Amish Church.

She was born in Defiance, Ohio, Oct. 27, 1917, to Mose and Mary (Yoder) Mast.

She married Reuben J. Bontrager Feb. 17, 1938, in LaGrange County. He died Dec. 19, 1996.

Surviving are five daughters and four sons-in-law, Edna R. Raber of Middlebury and Elsie and William Yoder of Bonduel, Wis. (Edna and Elsie are twins; Mary R. and Lester Lehman of Middlebury and Martha R. and Samuel Schrock of LaGrange (Mary and Martha are twins); and Lydia Mae R. and Glen Jay Miller of Kingston, Wis; two sons and daughters-in-law, Ervin and Viola Bontrager of Shipshewana and Orla and Sally Bontrager of Topeka; 67 grandchildren; 214 great-grandchildren.; and a brother, Mose Mast Jr. of LaGrange.

Preceding her in death were five grandchildren, two brothers, four sisters and a son-in-law, Lloyd Raber.

Services will be Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. at the Martin Yoder residence at 0745 S. C.R. 1075W, Middlebury, with Bishop Amos E. Bontrager and home ministers officiating. Burial will be at Bontrager Cemetery, Middlebury.

Calling will be today after 4 p.m. and all day Tuesday at the home of Edna R. Raber at 0405 S. C.R. 1075W, Middlebury.

THE NEWS SUN

APRIL 1 Kendallville, Indiana

J. Edward Marner

Mr. Marner

SHIPSHEWANA — J. Edward Marner, 81, died at 6:15 p.m. Monday, March 31, 2003, at his home.

He had lived at the same address since 1964. He was a self-employed farmer and did livestock hauling. He was a member of Maple Grove Church and the Albion Draft Horse Association.

He was born in Middlebury Oct. 8, 1921, to Jake and Mary (Hostetler) Marner.

He married Bertha Beachy May 2, 1943, in Arthur, Ill. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Marjorie and Merlin Gingerich of Howe; four sons and daughters-in-law, Perry and Betty Marner of LaGrange, Harold and Linda Marner of Elkhart, Claude and Diane Marner of Shipshewana and Ray and Gail Marner of Middlebury; 23 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Pauline and Clarence Beachy of Adrian, Mich., and Ruby and Richard Kehr of New Paris; three brothers and a sister-in-law, Robert Marner of Decatur, Ill, George and Bettye Marner of Goshen and LeRoy Marner of Abbeville, S.C.

He was preceded in death by a son, George Ervin Marner, in 1964; and a sister, Viola Marner.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Maple Grove Church, just south of Topeka on C.R. 600W, with the Rev. Mervin Miller officiating. Burial will be in Grace Lawn Cemetery, Middlebury.

Calling will be Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. and Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to LaGrange Community Hospice.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home of Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Thomas Jellison Sr.

BLUFFTON — Thomas E. Jellison Sr., 71, died at 1:10 p.m. Monday, March 31, 2003, at his home after a lengthy illness.

He lived in Bluffton since 1966. He worked at Corning Glass for 17 years and at Wayne Metal for 10 years. He was active in Wells County Republican Party politics for many years.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean conflict. He was a member of Sonlight Wesleyan Church and Grover Sheets American Legion Post 111, both in Bluffton.

He was born in Portland Aug. 23, 1931, to Charles Woodrow and Lena Lucille (Rickner) Jellison.

He married Bessie J. Baker Sept. 21, 1979, in Bluffton. She survives.

Also surviving are three daughters, Tina Hart of Fort Wayne, Jane Pettit of Bluffton and Teresa Ann Smith of Roanoke; five sons, Thomas Jellison Jr. of Albion, Scott Jellison of Twelve Mile, Clinton Wade Manning of Bluffton, Gary Lee Manning of Roanoke and Mark Alan Manning of Carmel; 22 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Kenneth George Manning and Jack Jellison.

Services will be Thursday at 2:30 p.m. at Thoma/Rich, Hewitt & Chaney Funeral Home, with the Rev. Bob Burchell officiating. Military graveside services will be conducted by Bluffton American Legion Post 111 at Six Mile Cemetery, Bluffton.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Visiting Nurse Center of Fort Wayne or Sonlight Wesleyan Church.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 1
Kendallville, Indiana

Dr. Harland Hippensteel

AUBURN — Dr. Harland V. Hippensteel Jr., 80, died Friday, March 28, 2003, in Auburn.

Born Nov. 5, 1922, in South Bend., Dr. Hippensteel was a family practice physician in Auburn for 53 years. He served as chief of staff at DeKalb Memorial Hospital in 1974. He was a 1946 graduate of Indiana Medical School.

He was a member of the Auburn First United Methodist Church, the American Medical Association, the Indiana State Medical Association, DeKalb County Medical Society, the Rotary Club, American Legion Post 97, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, Better Business Bureau and Greenhurst Country Club.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, serving as a second lieutenant and division medical officer of eight destroyers in the Pacific.

He was known for his generosity and gave $100 each to babies he had delivered when they graduated from high school. He donated to many schools and humanitarian organizations and donated medical supplies to medical missions in Russia and India.

He is survived by a daughter, C. Ellen Hippensteel Hefty of Auburn; five sons, Tim Hippensteel of Kirkwood, Mo., Harland "Hal" Hippensteel of Fairbanks, Alaska, Sam Hippensteel and Jeff Hippensteel, both of Auburn, and Dan Hippensteel of Fort Wayne; a brother, Joseph Hippensteel of North Manchester; a sister, Dr. Janet Merrill of Dallas, Texas; 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Rosemary (Knull) Hippensteel, on Jan. 18, 1995.

Services will be Friday at 1 p.m. at McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home, 502 N. Main St., Auburn. Burial will be in Cedar Creek Cemetery.

Calling is Thursday from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Diabetes Association, the American Heart Association, the Willennar Genealogy Center of Eckhart Public Library, or the Manchester College Library Fund.

Paul Braden

FORT WAYNE — Paul F. Braden, 70, died at 3:22 a.m. Monday, March 31, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He lived in the Wolf Lake community as a child and graduated from Wolf Lake High School in 1951. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean conflict. He lived in Wolf Lake, then Grabill, before settling in Fort Wayne the last five years.

He retired from B.F. Goodrich Co. in Woodburn with over 30 years of service.

He was born in Wolf Lake Jan. 20, 1933, to Robert S. and Eldora V. (Coverstone) Braden.

Surviving are two sons, Kevin D. Braden of Chula Vista, Calif., and Brian L. Braden of Kimmell; two daughters and a son-in-law, Cathy and Rex Nagle of Omaha, Neb., and Karen Armstrong of Friendship, Texas; nine grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Barbara and Charles Treece of Columbia City, and Docell and Darvin Strader of New Haven; and a brother, Robert E. Braden of Albion.

He was preceded in death by a son, Paul F. Braden Jr.; and a grandson, Ryan Braden.

Services will be Friday at 1 p.m. at Smith & Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with the Rev. J. Phillip Blake officiating. Burial will be in Stringtown Cemetery, west of Wolf Lake.

Calling will be Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Fund.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 2
Kendallville, Indiana

Howard Hess

HUNTERTOWN — Howard M. "Snuffy" Hess, 74, died Monday, March 31, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Hess

He was a machine repairman with Dana Corp. for 32 years, retiring in 1982. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving during the Korean War. He graduated from Huntertown High School in 1945, and was a member of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.

He was born in Avilla.

Surviving are his wife, Patricia Hess of Huntertown; two daughters and one son-in-law, Anita and Tom Hoot and Kathy Hess, all of Fort Wayne; a son and daughter-in-law, Phillip P. and Diane Hess of Huntertown; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; two brothers, Merlyn and George Hess Jr., both of Huntertown; and three sisters, Ruth Heffelfinger of Auburn, Helen "Eileen" Stein of Fort Wayne, and Lois Diehm of Kendallville.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Richard, Donald and Merton Hess; and one sister, Genevieve Carson.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 11228 Coldwater Road. Burial will be in Cedar Chapel Cemetery, Garrett.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, 1320 E. Dupont Road, and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Beautiful Savior Lutheran School.

Bette Heinlen

KENDALLVILLE — Bette L. Heinlen, 70, died Tuesday, April 1, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital. She had been ill for several years.

Mrs. Heinlen

She was employed for over 20 years at the V&A Restaurant, as well as by Kenny Gardner at Publix Cafe, Maloley's grocery store and Rogers Markets, all in Kendallville. She had been site director for the Council on Aging. She was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church and Ladies Aid in Avilla. She was former vice chairwoman of the American Cancer Society of Noble County, and former member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion and V.F.W., both in Kendallville.

She was born in Kendallville Feb. 24, 1933, to Frank and Hilda (Mathews) Wogoman, but was raised by her grandmother, Anna Mathews.

She married Loren Edwin Heinlen Feb. 12, 1952, in South Bend. He survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Loren and Valerie Heinlen Jr. of LaGrange; three daughters and sons-in-law, Kim and Tom Pippenger of Kendallville, Lori and Tracy Cooper of Albion and Kari and Mike Bianski of Kendallville; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Patricia Jones.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Dean Bearman of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Avilla officiating. Burial will be at Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

Calling will be Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Noble County Chapter of the American Cancer Society, Immanuel Lutheran Church Ladies Aid or Heartland Home Healthcare.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Beatrice "Bea" Cochran** were held Monday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Thomas Clothier officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were David Cochran, Randy Cochran, Joe Cochran, Rob Cochran, Michael Cochran, Jeff Poyser and Kevin Cochran.

THE NEWS SUN

APRIL 2

Kendallville, Indiana

Edmund Wines

LIGONIER — Edmund L. "R.C." Wines, 49, died at 6:13 a.m. Sunday, March 30, 2003, at AR Medical Center in Hazard, Ky., of an apparent heart attack.

Mr. Wines

He lived in Ligonier since 1966. He was employed in RV manufacturing and was a fisherman and enjoyed NASCAR racing and spending time with his grandchildren.

He was born in Charleston, W.Va. Jan. 13, 1954, to Otis and Thelma (Slater) Wines.

He married Anna J. Napier in Hazard. She survives in Ligonier.

Also surviving are four sons and a daughter-in-law, Robert Wines of Syracuse, Michael Wines of Ligonier, Richard Wines of Indianapolis and Harmon L. and Edith Jones of Millersburg; a daughter and son-in-law, Geneva and Rodney West of Warsaw; and eight grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his father, Otis Wines; his mother, Thelma Crosswhite; and a brother, Bruce Wines.

Services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Matthew Gingerich of Eden Community Worship Center officiating. Burial will be at Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Calling will be Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Adele Vaughn

HOWE — Adele L. Vaughn, 82, died Tuesday, April 1, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker. She moved to Howe from Vincennes in 1978. She was a member of Holy Angels Catholic Church in Sturgis, Mich., and River Oaks Homemakers Club.

She was born in Sturgis April 27, 1920, to Charles W. and Anna (Westendorf) Hartman.

She married James C. Vaughn Oct. 7, 1939, in Sturgis. He died June 10, 1989.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Charles J. and Dorothy Vaughn of Howe; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a daughter, Marsha Ann Frame, who died in April 2002; a son, James C. Vaughn, who died in 1941; three sisters; and one grandson.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Holy Angels Catholic Church in Sturgis, with the Rev. Stanley Witek officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. with rosary at 4 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange.

Memorials are to Masses or St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

ALBION NEW ERA
APRIL 2003
2

Thomas Jellison, Sr.

BLUFFTON – Thomas E. Jellison, Sr., 71, died March 31, 2003, at home with his family. He had been in failing health for the past several years.

He was born August 23, 1931, to Charles W. and Lena L. (Rickner) Jellison in Portland, IN.

Mr. Jellison lived in Bluffton since 1966. He worked at Corning Glass for 17 years, and Wayne Metal for 10 years. He was active in Wells County Republican Party Politics for many years. He was a member of the Sonlight Wesleyan Church in Bluffton.

He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict. He was a member of Grover Sheets American Legion Post #111 in Bluffton.

He married Bessie J. Baker on September 21, 1979. She survives.

In addition to his wife, also surviving are his sons, Thomas Jellison, Jr. of Albion, Scott Jellison in Twelve Mile, IN, Clinton Manning of Bluffton, Gary Manning in Roanoke, IN, and Mark Manning from Carmel, IN; daughters, Tina Hart in Fort Wayne, Jane Pettit in Bluffton, and Teresa Ann Smith of Roanoke, IN; 22 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Kenneth Manning and Jack Jellison.

Services will be held at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, April 3, 2003, at Thoma/Rich, Hewitt & Chaney Funeral Home in Bluffton, IN, with the Rev. Bob Burchell officiating. Burial will be in Six Mile Cemetery, Bluffton, with the Military Graveside Services conducted by Bluffton American Legion Post #111.

Paul Braden

FORT WAYNE – Paul F. Braden, 70, a resident of Fort Wayne, died at 3:22 a.m. Monday, March 31, 2003, in the Parkview Hospital.

He was born on January 20, 1933, in Wolf Lake, a son of Robert S. and Eldora V. (Coverstone) Braden. His formative years were spent in the Wolf Lake community where he graduated from high school in 1951.

After completing his education, he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. Following his discharge, he made his home in Wolf Lake, later Grabill and for the past five years, in Fort Wayne.

He retired from the B.F. Goodrich Company in Woodburn with more than thirty years of service.

The surviving relatives include two sons, Kevin D. Braden in Chula Vista, CA, and Brian L. Braden of Kimmell; two daughters, Cathy (Rex) Nagle in Omaha, Nebraska, and Karen Armstrong of Friendship, Texas; nine grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; two sisters, Barbara (Charles) Treece in Columbia City, and Docell (Darvin) Strader of New Haven; and a brother, Robert E. Braden of Albion.

He was preceded in death by a son, Paul F. Braden, Jr., and a grandson, Ryan Braden.

The funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, April 4, 2003, in the Smith and Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with the Rev. J. Phillip Blake, officiating. The burial will be in the Stringtown Cemetery, west of Wolf Lake. The visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to the American Heart Fund.

Willadean Rodman

LIGONIER – Willadean Rodman, 88, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at Oak Leaf Village Nursing Home.

Mrs. Rodman was born January 29, 1915, in Albion, to Charles and Beulah (Ott) Franks. She married Harold Stanger in 1937, and he preceded her in death in 1954. She then married Howard Rodman in 1972, and he preceded her in death in 2002.

She was a homemaker and a member of Cosperville Baptist Church. She enjoyed cooking, card games and board games.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Judy and Lester Bender of Wawaka, and Bonnie and Wayne Spallinger of Pleasant Lake; a stepson and stepdaughter-in-law, Howard and Jill Rodman or Union, MI; two sisters, Elizabeth Boyd of Kendallville and Margaret Bond of Wolcottville; 15 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a daughter, Rosalie Heintzelman; a son, Gary Stanger; a stepson, Harold Rodman; a brother, Charles Franks; a sister, Valura Marker; and one great-grandchild.

Services were Wednesday March 26, 2003, at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. James Barnes officiating. Burial was in Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

ALBION NEW ERA
APRIL 2 2003

Gary L. Foster

Gary Leroy "Tiny" Foster, 37, of southern Noble County, died at 5:45 a.m. Sunday, March 23, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne. He became suddenly ill two weeks ago and was admitted to the hospital and then transferred to the Hospice Home.

Born on October 6, 1965, at Whitley County Memorial Hospital, he was a son of William Walter and Connie S. (Pontzius) Foster. He attended Thorncreek Elementary and Middle School and graduated from Columbia City High School with the Class of 1984. He has spent his entire lifetime in the Whitley and Noble County area.

He married Shawn De-An Harrison on July 12, 2001, in Whitley County.

His first employment was at Holmes and Company, Inc., and then Fort Wayne Foundry, and lastly at Steel Dynamics, Inc., Columbia City through Executive Management Services, Fort Wayne.

He was a member of the North American Hunting and Fishing Club and ABATE of Indiana.

Survivors include his wife, Shawn De-An; two sons, Dean I. Slagal of Churubusco and Jeffrey L. Slagal of Columbia City; his parents, William Walter and Connie S. Foster; two sisters, Billie Jo and Jody M. Foster, both of Columbia City; maternal grandmother, Eleanor Pontizius of Evening Shade, AZ; several nieces and nephews and four great-nephews; one great-niece; several aunts and uncles; Jazmine and Noble, his beloved dogs and J.D., his bird.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, maternal grandfather and two uncles.

Services were held Wednesday, March 26, 2003, at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City with Pastor Samuel Harris, retired pastor, officiating. Burial was in Thorn Cemetery, Ormas.

Memorial donations may be given in Mr. Foster's memory to the family, in care of DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, Inc., P.O.Box 328, Columbia City, IN 46725.

Mary Smith

AVILLA – Mary L. (Doan) Smith, 58, died Monday, March 24, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Fort Wayne December 18, 1944, to Alvie and Vivian (Emberly) Doan.

Surviving are her husband, Allen John Smith III; four sons; Russell Smith of Clearwater, FL, James Smith of Fort Wayne, Heath Smith of Kendallville and Bradley Smith of Albion; a daughter, Rhonda Powers of Fort Wayne; a brother, David Doan of Fort Wayne; a sister, Margaret Clayton of Wawaka; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services were Wednesday at Tom Mungovan Funeral Home in Fort Wayne. Burial was in Highland Park Cemetery.

Herbert Branning

FORT WAYNE – Herbert M. Branning, 73, died Monday March 24, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He was a baker at Perfection Bakery, retiring in 1992. He was a member of American Legion Post 241. He was also a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean conflict.

He was born in Fort Wayne April 1, 1929.

His wife, Joyce A., died September 16, 1997.

Surviving are three sons, Stephen M. Branning of Huston, Texas, Matthew A. Branning of Fort Wayne and Michael A. Branning of Albion; a brother, Leonard Branning of Arcola; and three grandchildren.

Services were Friday March 28, 2003, at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home. Burial was in Lindenwood Cemetery.

Memorials are to Visiting Nurse Service & Hospice or Cancer Services of Allen County.

John Ditton

AVILLA – John Mark Ditton, 53, died at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 22, 2003, at Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

He was a discount store manager and lived in the community since moving from Coldwater, MI, in 1970. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

He was born in Fort Wayne September 26, 1949, to Louis Levin and Bertha C. (Croxton) Ditton.

Surviving are two brothers, George Ditton of Fort Wayne, and Dan Ditton of Mead, CO; and three sisters, Lois E. Kubiak of San Diego, Almeda Bechtholdt of Lodi, CA, and Margaret Herron of Avilla.

Grave side services were held Thursday, March 27, at Fairfield Cemetery in DeKalb County, with Pastor Dean Bearman officiating.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 3
Kendallville, Indiana

Phyllis DeLucenay

ASHLEY — Phyllis Jean DeLucenay, 73, died Wednesday, April 2, 2003, at the Adult Foster Care Home in Quincy, Mich.

Mrs. DeLucenay

Mrs. DeLucenay worked at Modernair Corp. for 25 years, retiring in 1986. She was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church of rural Waterloo.

She was born June 6, 1929, in Monroe to Albert and Mable (Bergman) McKean.

She married Earl F. DeLucenay on Aug. 7, 1948, in Waterloo. He survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Carol and Greg Peterson of Fremont; two brothers, Don McKean of Auburn and Wayne McKean of Leo; four sisters, Shirley McKean of Dayton, Ohio, Thelma Szeman of Hamilton, Janet Snyder of Auburn and Rita Wallenberg of Angola; four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Her parents and one brother preceded her in death.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday in St. Michael's Catholic Church. Father David Carkenord will officiate. Burial will be in the St. Michael's Cemetery.

Calling is Sunday from 2-7 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, and Monday from 10-11 a.m. at the church. A rosary service will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday in the funeral home.

Memorials are to Coldwater Hospice.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Lester Oxender

HOWE — Lester O. Oxender, 77, died Wednesday, April 2, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

He was a farmer and retired after 32 years from Kirsch Co. of Sturgis, Mich. He lived most of his life in LaGrange County. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during World War II. He was a member of American Legion Post 215 in LaGrange, Howe Lions Club, Pine Knobs Conservation Club and was a former Boy Scout leader.

He was born in Shipshewana May 14, 1925, to Thomas and Nellie (Agar) Oxender.

He married Pauline A. Warren Aug. 14, 1948, in Middlebury. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters, Nancy Flint of Austin, Texas, and Rachel Oxender of Goshen; two sons and a daughter-in-law, James L. Oxender of Union City, Mich., and Stanley and Lois Oxender of Conklin, Mich.; two brothers, David Oxender of Sturgis and Frank Oxender of Berrien Springs, Mich.; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Three sisters and four brothers preceded him in death.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield officiating. Burial will be at Shore Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to LaGrange County Council on Aging.

Amos Whetstone

MIDDLEBURY — Amos H. Whetstone, 83, died at 9:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 1, 2003, at East Lake Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Elkhart, where he had been a patient since Friday.

He was a lifelong resident of Middlebury. He was a farmer and had worked at Keene Machine, now Syndicate, in Middlebury. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during World War II. He was a member of American Legion Post 210 in Middlebury where he was part of the 40&8 squadron. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Middlebury.

He was born in Middlebury April 13, 1919, to John Henry and Susie (Hochstetler) Whetstone.

He married Freda Yoder Sept. 28, 1939, in Goshen. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Rose Ann and Richard Seymore of Elkhart; a son and daughter-in-law, Don and Nancy Whetstone of Elkhart; two granddaughters; two sisters, Fannie Hochstetler of Etna Green and Millie Whetstone of Middlebury; five brothers and four sisters-in-law, Jonathon and Vada Ann Whetstone of Colon, Mich., Don Whetstone of Elkhart; Joe and Carol Whetstone of Constantine, Mich., Dave and Barb Whetstone of Middlebury; and John Henry Jr. and Goldie Whetstone of Goshen.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Carol Ward, who died in 1970.

Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury, with Chaplain Ron Troyer of American Legion Post 210 officiating. Burial will be at Grace Lawn Cemetery, Middlebury.

Calling will be today from 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial are to Elkhart General Community Hospice.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 3
Kendallville, Indiana

Madelyn Smith

FORT WAYNE — Madelyn LeBeau Smith, 90, died [illegible] Tuesday, April 1, 2003, [illegible] p.m. at The Towne House retirement home in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker and had lived in Fort Wayne since 1946. She was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church.

She was born Dec. 4, 1912, in Elsie, Mich., to Anna May (Schwark) and Mac Leo LeBeau.

She is survived by her husband, William M. Smith of Fort Wayne; three sons, William M. Smith Jr., of Corunna, Robert M. Smith of Madison Heights, Va., and Lawrence E. Smith of Noblesville; 11 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at The Towne House, 2209 St. Joe Center Road, Fort Wayne, with Chaplain Melvin Phillips and the Rev. John Gardner officiating.

Calling is Saturday from 10-11:30 a.m. at The Towne House.

A private burial service will take place in Fairview Cemetery at Bell Center, Ohio.

Memorials are to the Towne House Chapel fund.

Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Homes, Wayne Street Chapel, 420 W. Wayne St., Fort Wayne, is in charge of arrangements.

Fred Pearson

LAGRANGE — Fred A. Pearson, 95, died Wednesday, April 2, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

He retired as district manager for United Telephone Co. He moved to LaGrange from Union City in 1950.

He was born in Carroll County Oct. 28, 1907, to Harry and Bessie (Brown) Pearson.

He married Fay Williams Oct. 26, 1929, in Watseka, Ill. She died Sept. 27, 1995.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Jack and Patricia Pearson of LaGrange, and Larry and Cook Pearson of Wolcottville; six grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and 20 great-great-grandchildren.

One sister preceded him in death.

Graveside services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield officiating.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Arrangements are by Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange.

Helen Harmeyer

LEO-CEDARVILLE — Helen A. Harmeyer, 80, died Monday, March 31, 2003, at The Cedars, Leo-Cedarville.

She was a homemaker.

She was born in Reynolds, N.D.

Surviving are her husband, Junior A.; four daughters, Arlene Rice and Sharon Harmeyer, both of Fort Wayne, Elaine Battenberg Deetz of Kendallville and Carolyn Marker of Churubusco; three sons, David, Henry and Neil Harmeyer, all of Fort Wayne; two brothers, Thomas Austreng of Waskish, Minn., and Audie Austreng of Babbitt, Minn.; 13 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Concordia Lutheran Church, 4245 Lake Ave., Fort Wayne. Burial will be in Concordia Cemetery Gardens.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, 6131 St. Joe Road, Fort Wayne, and one hour before services at the church.

THE NEWS SUN

APRIL 3 Kendallville, Indiana

Robert Bay Jr.

BLUFFTON — Robert Eugene Bay Jr., 66, died Monday, March 31, 2003, at home.

He was a musician and played the guitar in a traveling band. He was a union electrician and worked at Corning Glass in Bluffton for more than four years.

Surviving are three daughters, Melody Shell of LaOtto, Melinda Sue Foss of Portland and Melissa Darlene Ford of Berne; a son, Michael Eugene Pietosi-Bay of Bluffton; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be at Mossburg Cemetery, Bluffton, at a later date.

Calling will be today from 6 to 8 p.m. at Thoma/Rich, Hewitt & Chaney Funeral Home, Bluffton.

Elizabeth Schrock

SHIPSHEWANA — Elizabeth "Lizzie" Schrock, 85, died at 2:05 am. today, Friday, April 4, 2003, at AmeriCare Living Center, Goshen, where she had resided since March 19.

She was a homemaker and member of the Old Order Amish Church.

She was born in LaGrange County Dec. 7, 1917, to Dan and Edith (Schrock) Graber.

She married Truman L. Schrock Feb. 11, 1943, in Shipshewana. He survives.

Also surviving are four sons and daughters-in-law, Daniel and Mary Schrock of Shipshewana, Truman Jr. and Edna Schrock of Topeka, Samuel T. and Wilma J. Schrock of Middlebury and Allen and Gerry Schrock of LaGrange; 10 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Anna Lambright of Shipshewana, Ada and Ora Nisley of Goshen and Fannie and Melvin Mast of Shipshewana; a brother, Sam Graber of Goshen; and a half brother and his wife, John and Betty Graber of Middlebury.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Levi Graber; and three half brothers, Melvin, Milo and Tobe Graber.

Services will be Monday at 9:30 a.m. at the Harry Troyer residence at 10870 W. C.R. 250N, Shipshewana, with Bishop Perry Bontrager and home ministers officiating. Burial will be at Naylor Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling will be Saturday after noon and all day Sunday at Mrs. Schrock's home.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home of Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Berne Garlets

MONGO — Berne "Bill" E. Garlets, 79, died Thursday, April 3, 2003, at Sturgis Hospital in Sturgis, Mich.

He retired in 1979 from Ross Laboratory in Sturgis after 30 years of service. He lived all his life in Sturgis and LaGrange County.

He was born in Mongo June 27, 1923, to Milton P. and Bess I. (Gochenaur) Garlets.

He married Beatrice M. Buys Dec. 31, 1959, in LaGrange. She died Feb. 9, 1991.

Surviving are a stepdaughter, Betty M. Haverty of Sturgis; a sister, Mary Shoff of New Carlisle; a brother, Richard Garlets of Wellston, Mich.; two stepgrandchildren; four stepgreat-grandchildren; and five stepgreat-great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were a stepdaughter, Nancy Myers, who died Sept. 18, 1981; and three brothers, John P., Monroe and Charles.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. James Bartlett officiating. Burial will be in English Prairie Cemetery, Mongo.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 5 at the funeral home.

Memorials are to LaGrange County Cancer Society.

Douglas Bowman

HILLSDALE, Mich. — Douglas L. Bowman, 32, died Tuesday, April 1, 2003, at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.

He was involved in campus ministry at Hillsdale College and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. He was a teacher at Reading High School from 1997 to 200. He graduated from East Noble High School in Kendallville in 1989, Tri-State University in Angola in 1994 and Dallas Theological Seminary in Dallas, Texas, in 1996. He attended the Hillsdale United Brethren Church.

He was born in Columbus, Ind., Oct. 3, 1970, to Lee and Dorothy (Griffith) Bowman.

He married Monica Brinkley May 23, 1992. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Jennifer; three sons, Peter, Paul and Jeremy; his father, Lee Bowman of Albion; his mother and stepfather, Dorothy and Mike Vorndran of Franklin, Tenn.; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Jeff and Lori Bowman of Denver, Colo., and Scott and Robin Vorndran of Kendallville; and his paternal grandmother, Donna Wehmeyer of Albion.

He was preceded in death by his grandmothers, Evelyn Griffith and Marcelle Vorndran.

Services will be Sunday at 2:30 p.m. (Michigan time) at the Hilllsdale United Brethren Church, with the Rev. Lester Smith officiating. Burial will be at the Oak Grove Cemetery in Hillsdale.

Calling will be Saturday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the VanHorn-Eagle Funeral Home in Hillsdale.

Memorials are to Hillsdale College or InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 4
Kendallville, Indiana

Pauline White

LIGONIER — Pauline White, 88, died at 8:35 p.m. Wednesday, April 2, 2003, at her daughter's home in Kendallville, where she had resided for the last 2 1/2 years.

She was a lifelong Noble County resident. She graduated from Ligonier High School in 1932. She had worked in the laboratory at Kidd's Marshmallow Co., retiring after over 30 years of service. She was a member of the Ligonier United Methodist Church. She enjoyed her work and watching professional bowling.

Mrs. White

She was born in Kosciusko County May 30, 1914, to Earl Devoe and Mary Mildred (Orr) Keefer.

She and her husband, Roland Raymond White, were married by his father in September 1941, in the United Brethren Church in Ligonier. Her husband preceded her in death.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Bonnie and Bill Bryant of Kendallville; stepdaughters, Margaret Grass of Goshen and Ruth Kaser of Elkhart; 12 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Connie; two brothers, Lester and Bob Keefer; and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Michael Heinbaugh officiating. Burial will be at Oak Park Cemetery.

Calling will be Monday from 2 to 4:30 and 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Alzheimer's disease research or the American Cancer Society.

Glenn Foulk

ANGOLA — Glenn H. Foulk, 80, died Thursday, April 3, 2003, in Betz Nursing Home of Auburn.

Mr. Foulk worked at Moore Business Forms of Angola as a printer from 1965 until he retired in 1985. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Navy. He moved from Angola to Auburn in June 2002.

He was born March 16, 1923, in Ray to Glenn and Ursa (Bailey) Foulk.

He married LaVonne I. Lash on May 26, 1973, in Coldwater, Mich. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters, Susan Schroeder of Dayton, Ohio, and Nanette Hiesrodt of Tekonsha, Mich.; three stepsons, Gary Greenwood of Butler, Terry Greenwood of Hudson and Jeffrey Filipow of California; one stepdaughter, Vicki Meyer of Auburn; one brother, Harold Foulk of Angola; 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 7 p.m. Saturday at Johnson Funeral Home, 612 N. Main St., Hudson. The Rev. Ken Ludwig will officiate. Burial will be at a later date.

Calling is Saturday from 2-4 and 5-7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Cancer Society.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 5 Kendallville, Indiana

Sara Miller

MIDDLEBURY — Sara Rose Miller, 9 months and 31 days old, died Friday, April 4, 2003, at 8:44 a.m. at Goshen General Hospital's emergency room.

She was born June 5, 2002, at New Eden Care Center in Topeka to LaVern and Velda (Graber) Miller. They survive.

Also surviving are grandparents Simon and Susie Graber, and Amos and Katie Miller, all of Middlebury; three sisters, Lorene Sue, Linda Marie and Joan Kay Miller, all at home; and two brothers, Carl Eugene and Matthew Lynn Miller, both at home.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at the family's residence, 11659 C.R. 116, Middlebury, with Bishop Ernest Yoder and home ministers, all of the Old Order Amish Church, officiating. Burial will be in Naylor Cemetery in Shipshewana.

Calling is today after noon and all day Sunday at the family's residence.

Arrangements are by Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services were held for **Bette Heinlen** Friday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville.

The Rev. Dean Bearman officiated the ceremony.

She was buried in Christian Union Cemetery in Garrett.

Pallbearers were Loren Heinlen Jr., Lucas Heinlen, Emily Heinlen, Tracy Cooper, Anna and Dan Lytle.

THE NEWS SUN

APRIL 6

Kendallville, Indiana

Phillip Foley Jr.

FREMONT — Phillip J. Foley Jr., 78, died Friday, April 4, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in Angola.

He was a fireman for the city of Chicago, retiring in 1978, and was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II. He was a member of Angola American Legion Post No. 31, the 40 and 8, George Anspaugh VFW Post No. 7205 and the Fremont Moose Lodge.

He was born Nov. 28, 1924, in Chicago, to Phillip J. and Constance (Guppy) Foley Sr. On Aug. 5, 1985, he married Mary McGinty, and she survives in Fremont.

Also surviving are five sons, Peter of Chicago, John of Kansas City, Mo., James of Sturgis, S.D., Sean of Alsip, Ill. and Phillip J. III, on active military duty in Kuwait; a daughter, Patricia Claus of Chicago; a stepson, John Clifton of Rome City; a stepdaughter, Lynda Budd of Pleasant Lake; 14 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

His first wife, Marguerite Foley, preceded him in death in 1983.

Private family services will be at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola.

George Russell

AUBURN — George D. Russell, 87, died Saturday, April 5, 2003, at Smith Manor Farms in Auburn.

He was a 30-year U.S. Navy officer, retiring as a captain in 1971. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Kissimmee, Fla.

He was born Sept. 16, 1915, in Willard, Ohio, to Ernest and Alice (Bigham) Russell. On Nov. 5, 1941 in Mansfield, Ohio, he married Elaine Andrews, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Jon and Diane Russell of Fairfax, Va., and Jeremy and Donna Russell of Lawrenceburg, Ind.; two daughters and a son-in-law, Mary and Greg Stanley of Gainsville, Va., and Kris Cicio of Alexandria, Va.; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Two sisters preceded him in death.

There will be no services or calling. Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo is in charge of arrangements. Condolences can be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Douglas Thatcher

FORT WAYNE — Douglas James Thatcher, 92, died Monday, Dec. 16, 2002, in Fort Wayne.

He was a New Haven native who retired as a firefighter for the city of Fort Wayne in 1968 after 23 years of service. He wa a member of International Association of Firefighters and Firefighters Museum. At age 65, he sailed a 14-foot boat from Madison, Ind., on the Ohio River, down the Missippi River to New Orleans and eventually Clearwater, Fla.

Surviving are three sons, Bill J. of Fort Wayne, Dennis L. of Sacramento, Calif., and James E. of Avilla; a daughter, Marilyn J. McIlveen of Fort Wayne; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

His wife, Margaret J., preceded him in death.

There were private, family services. Memorials are to Parkview Hospice.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 6
Kendallville, Indiana

Longardner 'made living worthwhile'

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

LIGONIER — It was the evening of Easter Sunday, April 1, 1945. As he left for Bell's Rink that evening, Glenn Longardner was hopeful he would meet the girl he would marry.

When he arrived, a mutual friend introduced him to Margaret, who was there with three friends.

"Things just clicked," Glenn said. "I gave her a diamond on June 10th and we were married Aug. 19th." He was 21 and she was just 19 — a fact not lost on the couple's 19-year-old granddaughter when she heard about their "whirlwind courtship."

Margaret Longardner, who died March 23, 2003, at the age of 76, had several things in common with her husband. For instance, they were both the youngest children in their families and their fathers had died early and they had been reared by their widowed mothers.

Since Margaret's father had passed away when she was a 7-year-old child, her mother was forced to go out and find work. Margaret vowed she would be a stay-at-home mother so she could be at home when her children returned from school. However, she also realized many people had no choice and needed dependable day care.

She set about to combine her desire to be at home and to help fill this need. When they moved to Ligonier in the mid 1970s, the couple set aside a portion of their two-story home for a day care facility. Her own children soon noticed that they and the "day care children" had to live by the same rules.

One day Glenn noticed his wife was a bit "misty-eyed," and asked her what was wrong. She described how a small child had come up to her and wrapped his little arms around her legs as she stood at the kitchen sink. She felt instinctively that the child's own mother should have enjoyed that hug, not her, but she was thrilled, nonetheless, to offer all the children a mother's love.

Long before it was a requirement, their home day care was licensed by the state. The welfare department visited yearly and the fire marshal made an inspection at least every other year, said Longardner.

Once, the fire marshal questioned the fact that the back yard was not fenced in. Margaret said, "I teach them to stay in the yard, because if we had a fence, it might have a gate, and the gate might be open, and a child could still get out. They know they're supposed to stay out of the alley, and they do."

Glenn said he borrowed a quote to describe his 57-year marriage: "I tried to make a living, but it was Margaret that made the living worthwhile."

Hatfield's greatest joy was being grandpa

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ANGOLA — Ralph Hatfield survived World War II and two heart attacks because he was a fighter.

When he died on March 27, he did it in his own way, surrounded by people who loved him.

"The morning we lost Ralph, I got a call about 1:30 saying if we wanted to see him, we'd better come up," said Mr. Hatfield's nephew, Jerry Hatfield.

Jerry knew he needed to call Mr. Hatfield's grandson, David Sorice, who lives in the Chicago area.

"David was the apple of Grandpa's eye," Jerry said. "That's the best way to put it."

Jerry said it was close to 8 a.m. before David made it to Angola.

"He went in the room and said, 'I'm here, Grandpa,'" Jerry said. "Ralph said, 'I know you are.' We had to leave the room so the doctor could check him. He came back out and told us Ralph wasn't doing too good. And while he was telling us that, Ralph passed away. He just held on long enough so he could see David. You hear about things like that, but you never really think you're going to see it happen."

Mr. Hatfield

Mr. Hatfield, 78, died at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Angola. He was born July 3, 1924, in Ossian. His wife, Joan, preceded him in death in 1995.

He was retired from the U.S. Air Force, where he served as a pilot and worked in intelligence for the Civil Service.

"He was quiet, especially about his time in the service," Jerry said. "It's just in the past couple of years I had gotten him to talk to me about the war."

Mr. Hatfield, Jerry said, flew 24 missions over Germany in World War II.

"He could tell you some wild stories," Jerry said.

Jerry said his uncle had "a mild heart attack 20 or 25 years ago, but had surgery and made a full recovery.

"Then a couple of years ago, he had emergency surgery ... something to do with his intestines," Jerry said. "While he was having that surgery he had another heart attack. They also found an aneurysm. But because of his age, there was nothing they could really do about that. And that, I think, is what finally got him in the end."

Mr. Hatfield was a past commander of the Orland American Legion, and was a member of the National Guard Association, K of P Lodge, and the National Association of Federal Employees.

Mr. Hatfield was preceded in death by his daughter, Terri Sorice, several years ago, as well as a brother, William Hatfield in 1970, and a sister, Alice.

Memorial services were Monday at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home, Fort Wayne. Burial was in Oaklawn Cemetery. Memorials are to Orland Fire and Rescue or Cameron Memorial Community Hospital.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 6
Kendallville, Indiana

‘Go-getter’ enjoyed sports, volunteering

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

AUBURN — Vernon “Gene” Stebing developed a love for sports while attending Auburn High School, where he lettered in track and football, and it continued until his untimely death March 24 at the age of 78.

Mr. Stebing

“He is really going to be missed here at the high school,” noted DeKalb High School athletic director Ron Kock. Mr. Stebing measured the distances in the shot putt and discus for many years as a track and field volunteer, “but he was an avid supporter of all the athletic programs,” Kock said.

Mr. Stebing and his wife, Janice, could be found at almost every basketball game and he attended right up until undergoing heart bypass surgery in late January. He died as the result of a staph infection eight weeks later.

Mr. Stebing and his wife traveled regularly to Greenwood, where daughter Cyndi’s three sons play football and track at Center Grove High School. One grandson, Ryan Baker, was in the state track championship in the discus last spring.

Another grandson, Chris Stebing, throws the discus at Concordia High School in Fort Wayne. His father, David, earned a full scholarship in track to Eastern Kentucky and still participates in senior amateur events.

Mrs. Stebing agreed that she and her husband had a “busy” 57-year marriage.

They raised their three children (daughter Sally Wagoner lives in Kendallville) while Mr. Stebing served on the Auburn Fire Department and also sold insurance. He retired in 1977 as an assistant chief, after 23 years of service.

Retired fire chief Bill Walters remembers Mr. Stebing as a “compassionate go-getter and a real nice guy, who did a great job serving the citizens of Auburn.”

After leaving the fire department, Mr. Stebing continued in the insurance business as a full-time agent for Western Southern Life Insurance Co. He was active in his church, the First United Methodist Church of Auburn; the Masonic Lodge, where he and his wife were guardian and associate guardian of Job’s Daughters, and he volunteered with the American Red Cross bloodmobile and the DeKalb County Christmas Bureau.

“He also helped me when I volunteered for the United Way,” Mrs. Stebing said. “His favorite job was putting the labels on envelopes.”

Mr. Stebing was an Army veteran of World War II, serving in the South Pacific theater and Japan. He was called back to duty for the Korean conflict, serving at Camp McCoy in Wisconsin.

Mrs. Stebing said her husband never complained while he was ill, even though he was very sick.

“As sick as he was, he remembered our anniversary on March 10,” she said.

Lavila Crook

MICHIGAN CITY — Lavila E. Crook, 79, died at 11:40 p.m. Saturday, April 5, 2003, at Michigan City Health Care Center.

She was a homemaker. She enjoyed baby-sitting, writing music and poetry, sewing and knitting, and keeping a clean house.

She was born in Long Lake, Wis., May 11, 1923, to John F. and Adelia M. Sheperd.

She married Howard W. Crook Aug. 8, 1944, in Joplin, Mo. He died in 1998.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Betty Lou and Thomas S. Richardson of Michigan City; a son and daughter-in-law, William F. and Patricia Crook of Melrose Park, Ill.; four grandchildren and spouses, Lavila and Stanley Weckwerth of Midvale, Utah, Guida Rightsell of Michigan City, Deanna and John Radich of Evansville and Fredrick H. and Rae Crook of Chicago; a sister, Delana R. Terry of Kendallville; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by an infant son, Larry B. Crook; two sisters, Shirly and Bessie; and four brothers, Cecil, Curtis, Albert and Edgar.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Carlisle Funeral Home, with Pastor Silas Christian of First Free Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at Swan Lake Memorial Park, Michigan City.

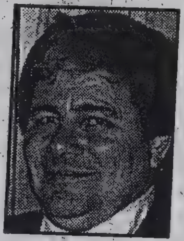
Calling will be Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Thomas Fear

WOLF LAKE — Thomas O. Fear, 63, died at 11:47 a.m. Sunday, April 6, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne, where he had been admitted several days ago.

He was employed by Dana Weatherhead Division in Columbia City for 31 years, retiring as a set-up man in 1994. He also worked 20 years at Bob Wysong Chevrolet-Pontiac Inc. in Cromwell. He was a member American Legion Post 243 in Ligonier and a fan and collector of NASCAR racing memorabilia.



Mr. Fear

He was born in Silver Lake Oct. 10, 1939, to Claude O. and Ilene Marie (Gaff) Fear. He lived in Akron as a youth and moved to Noble County and graduated from Avilla High School in 1957. After high school he served in the U.S. Army until 1962.

He married Sharon Starkey Feb. 8, 1963, in Wolf Lake. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Kim and Dan Filley and Tammy and Brian Guthrie, all of Albion; his mother, Ilene M. Gordon of Avilla; a sister, Sandy F. Thomas of Indianapolis; two brothers and a sister-in-law, James L. Fear of Blairsville, Pa., and Dennis A. and Linda Gordon of Fort Wayne; and six grandchildren, Courtney, Tanner and Cara Guthrie and Lyndi, Jesse and Dakota Filley.

He was preceded in death by his father, Claude O.; and a brother, Charles Robert Fear.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Dan Carlson of Wolf Lake Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Connie Winebrenner

LAGRANGE — Connie May Winebrenner, 61, died Saturday, April 5, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was employed at ARC Opportunities Inc. of Howe. She had lived in Angola and South Bend before moving to LaGrange.

She was born in Allen County Feb. 4, 1942, to Paul M. and Evelyn (Starrett) Winebrenner. Her mother survives in Bonita Springs, Fla.

Also surviving are two sisters, Lois Mullinax of Robinsville, N.C., and Paullette McDonald of Millersburg; and two brothers, Gail D. and Dale A. Winebrenner, both of Albion.

Services will be held at a later date. Burial will be at Greenlawn Cemetery, Orland, at a later date.

Frurip-May Funeral Home of LaGrange is in charge of arrangements.

John Draper

ASHLEY — John L. Draper, 41, died Friday, April 4, 2003, from injuries he sustained as the result of an accident at a job site in Blackstone, Mass.

Mr. Draper had been employed with Swager Communications of Fremont for most of his life.

A lifelong resident of the Fremont and Kinderhook, Mich., area, he was an avid outdoorsman and loved climbing. He was a former member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 469.

He was born Jan. 9, 1962, in Fort Knox, Ky., to Lloyd Draper Jr. and Joyce (Cleveland) Draper. His father survives in Bronson, Mich. His mother died in 1980.

Also surviving are a daughter, Brittany Marie Draper of Fremont; a brother, Gary Allen Draper of Sturgis, Mich.; two sisters, Beverly Draper of Sturgis, Mich., and Lou Nivison of Sherwood, Mich.; five stepbrothers and five stepsisters.

Services will be at 10 a.m. (Indiana time) Wednesday at Dutcher Funeral Home, 440 W. Chicago St., Coldwater, Mich. The Rev. Kim Cole of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Coldwater will officiate. Burial will be in Knauss Cemetery of Kinderhook Township.

Calling is Tuesday from 3-7 p.m. (Indiana times) at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

Condolences may be sent to the family's online guestbook at www.dutcherfh.com.

Dishmon Combs

KENDALLVILLE — Dishmon Combs, 57, died Friday, April 4, 2003, at his home.

He was a pressman for Maverick Molding in Garrett. He attended New Hope Baptist Church in Kendallville.

He was born in Perry County, Ky., March 3, 1946, to McKinley and Tilda (Adkins) Combs.

He married Barbara S. Dunn Aug. 17, 1967, in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Tracy Combs of Hudson, Steven and Angel Combs of North Webster and Robert and Kristin Combs of Kendallville; a daughter and son-in-law, Tammy and Darrel Jacobs of Kendallville; a brother, Eugene Combs of Cincinnati; three sisters, Gertrude Lowe of Danville, Ill, Margi Belle Slone of Blackie, Ky., and Leona Couch of Hazard, Ky.; and seven grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by nine sisters and two brothers.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at New Hope Baptist Church, with the Pastor Jeffrey Hipley officiating. Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday after 2 p.m. at the church at the intersection of C.R. 500E and S.R. 8.

Arrangements are by Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Mary Weiland

HOWE — Mary Elizabeth (Ulmer) Weiland, 80, died at 8:50 a.m. Saturday, April 5, 2003, at Sarasota Memorial Hospital in Sarasota, Fla.

She moved from Bluffton to Sturgis, Mich., in 1927. She graduated from Sturgis High School in 1940. She worked for Formed Tubes and Sturgis Cartons in Sturgis and for Fawn Corp., near Howe. She retired in 1976 and began spending winters in Sarasota and summers at Howe and Klinger Lake.

She was born in Bluffton Oct. 22, 1922, to Glenn and Erma (Elzey) Ulmer.

She married Fred Weiland May 24, 1942, at Lima Presbyterian Church at Howe. He died Sept. 5, 2002.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Dan and Marilyn Weiland of Howe and Fishers, and Scott and Karen Weiland of Howe; a daughter, Ann Weiland of Sarasota; two granddaughters, Ashley and Katelyn Weiland; and a sister, Bette Knox of Sturgis; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Bill Ulmer.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Memorials are to Lima Presbyterian Church.

Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe is in charge of arrangements.

Alberta Bowser

FORT WAYNE — Alberta I. Bowser, 91, died Saturday, April 5, 2003, at University Park Nursing Center.

Mrs. Bowser worked in food services for GTE for 15 1/2 years and was a homemaker and a loving and kindhearted mother. She was a member of Union Chapel United Brethren in Christ church. She taught Sunday school and belonged to the Missionary Society of the church.

She was born June 11, 1911, in Butler.

Her husband, Rolland M. Bowser, preceded her in death in 1989.

Surviving are five daughters, Ann E. Turner of Huntington, Eva A. Gordon of Wolcottville, Leola M. (Johnson) Nelson of Fort Wayne, Dorotha I. Miller of Avon and Phyllis J. Archer of Huntertown; nine grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in Union Chapel United Brethren in Christ church, 12628 Coldwater Road. Burial will be in Huntertown Cemetery.

Calling is today from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Funeral Home, 1320 E. Dupont Road, and Wednesday from 1-2 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Union Chapel United Brethren in Christ church.

Neva Fulk

CHURUBUSCO — Neva Fulk, 77, died today, April 8, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

Among surviving relatives is her husband, Lee A. Fulk.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco. Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Jerald Kistler

PLEASANT LAKE — Jerald L. "Jerry" Kistler, 66, died Monday, April 7, 2003, at 2:51 a.m. in his home.

Mr. Kistler retired from McMahon Tire Co. in 1999 after 22 years of service.

He was a member of the Ashley Church of God and a former member of the Indian Village Church of God in Auburn.

He was born Sept. 16, 1936, in Fort Wayne to Ernest and Thelma (Smitley) Kistler.

His first wife, Judith Ann Kistler, died in 1997.

He married M. June Compton on May 8, 1999, in the Ashley Church of God. She survives.

Also surviving are his father and stepmother, Ernest and Della Kistler of Olympia, Wash.; three sons, Joel Kistler Sr. of Butler and Jeff Kistler and Jon Kistler, both of Kendallville; a daughter, Jeanine Rhoads of Butler; a stepson, Edward Gillespie of Ligonier; a stepdaughter, Doni Jun Baum of Ashley; a sister, Tomi Eileen Mullins of Berea, Ky.; three half-brothers, Terry, Ernest and Richard Kistler of Olympia, Wash.; 22 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his mother and a sister, Carol June Kistler.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Ashley Church of God. The Rev. Dean Snyder and the Rev. Craig Burkholder will officiate. Burial will be in Flint Cemetery near Angola.

Calling is Wednesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the family.

Johnson Funeral Home of Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be sent to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Clifford Parks

KENDALLVILLE — Clifford E. Parks, 81, died Monday, April 7, 2003, in Auburn.

Mr. Parks

He graduated from Avilla High School in 1940. He was employed with the Carpenters Union Local 232, Fort Wayne, for 45 years, retiring in 1987.

He was born in Allen Township, Noble County, Jan. 19, 1922, to Howard and Arlene (Wooster) Parks.

He married Joann Ellen Swinehart on Jan. 22, 1961, in Avilla. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and one daughter-in-law, Larry Parks of New Port Richey, Fla., and Kevin and Tami Parks of Kendallville; one daughter and son-in-law, Kelly and Bob Bolen of Kendallville; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Jeanette and Harry Haney and Ellen and Bishop Holyman, all of Woodburn, and Helen Fritz of Avilla; three brothers and two sisters-in-law, Donald and Helen Parks, Forrest and Mona Parks and Richard Parks, all of Kendallville; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 7 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, with the Rev. Dr. Leonard King of Calvary United Methodist Church in Avilla officiating. Burial will be at a later date.

Calling will be Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m.

Memorials are to Calvary United Methodist Church in Avilla or the Northeast Indiana Dialysis Center in Auburn.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana
APRIL 8

Mark Wentworth

Mr. Wentworth

WAWAKA — Mark D. Wentworth, 44, died Sunday, April 6, 2003.

He was employed by Coachmen Industries in Middlebury. He was a member of Eagles Lodge, Moose Lodge and Sons of the American Legion Post 86, all in Kendallville, and White Tails Unlimited.

He was born June 10, 1958, to Roy Jr. and Fern (Krotzer) Wentworth.

He married Jill Boszer March 30, 1996, in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are his mother, Fern Wentworth of Wawaka; two sons, Mark Wentworth Jr. of Kendallville and Justin Yates of Wawaka; two daughters, Nicole Wentworth of Kendallville and Alexis Yates of Wawaka; three brothers, Michael Wentworth of Kendallville, Mitchell Wentworth of Angola and Matthew Wentworth of Wawaka; two sisters, Michelle Barden of Syracuse and Melanie Layne of Wawaka; and a granddaughter, Saige Days of Avilla.

His father preceded him in death July 6, 1999.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Paul B. Griebel officiating. Burial will be in South Milford Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 9

Kendallville, Indiana

Nevah Fulk

Mrs. Fulk

CHURUBUSCO — Nevah M. Fulk, 77, died at 8:02 a.m. Tuesday, April 8, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla, where she had been a patient for over five years.

She graduated from Churubusco High School in 1944. She and her husband moved to San Antonio, Texas, in 1957, and then to Miami, Fla., in 1961, before returning to Churubusco in 1993.

She had been a cafeteria worker in the Dade County Schools in Miami for over 30 years. She was a member of Wayside Baptist Church in Miami. She had also been a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority and Pytheon Sisters in Churubusco.

She was born in Churubusco March 6, 1926, to Thomas and Maude Elizabeth (Bennett) Gaff.

She married Alton Lee Fulk April 21, 1946, in Churubusco. He survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Rose Ann and Paul Herkenratt of Cocoa, Fla.; three sons and two daughters-in-law, William L. "Bill" Fulk of Churubusco, Joseph and Denise Fulk and James and Jackie Fulk, all of Cocoa, Fla.; five brothers and three sisters-in-law, Thurlo "Frog" Gaff of LaOtto, Rodger Gaff of Nappanee, John and Arlene Gaff of Columbia City, Raymond L. and Katie Gaff of Muncie and Leonard "Jake" and Linda Gaff of Huntertown; four sisters and a brother-in-law, Ilene M. Gordon of Avilla, Mary Gray of Churubusco, Barbara and Ray Leitch of New London, Iowa, and Shirley Stamp of Churubusco; and six granddaughters.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Carl E. Gaff, who died Nov. 23, 1996, and a sister, Willodean Kirkpatrick, who died Jan. 31, 2000.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs of Churubusco United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at a later date.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Alzheimer's Unit at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

ALBION NEW ERA
APRIL 9 2003

Douglas Bowman

HILLSDALE, MI – Douglas L. Bowman, 32, died Tuesday, April 1, 2003, at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX.

He was involved in campus ministry at Hillsdale College and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. He was a teacher at Reading High School. He graduated from East Noble High School in Kendallville in 1989, Tri-State University in Angola in 1994 and Dallas Theological Seminary in Dallas, TX, in 1996. He attended the Hillsdale United Brethren Church.

He was born in Columbus, IN, October 3, 1970, to Lee and Dorothy (Griffith) Bowman.

He married Monica Brinkley May 23, 1992. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Jennifer; three sons, Peter, Paul and Jeremy; his father, Lee Bowman of Albion; his mother and step-father, Dorothy and Mike Vorndran of Franklin, TN; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Jeff and Lori Bowman of Denver, CO, and Scott and Robin Vorndran of Kendallville; and his paternal grandmother, Donna Wehmeyer of Albion.

He was preceded in death by his grandmothers, Evelyn Griffith and Marcelle Vorndran.

Services were Sunday, April 6, 2003, at the Hillsdale United Brethren Church, with the Rev. Lester Smith officiating. Burial was in Oak Grove Cemetery in Hillsdale.

For those who wish, memorials are to Hillsdale College or InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

Thomas Fear

WOLF LAKE – Thomas O. Fear, 63, died Sunday, April 6, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne, where he had been admitted several days ago.

He was employed by Dana Weatherhead Division in Columbia City for 31 years, retiring as a set-up man in 1994. He also worked 20 years at Bob Wysong Chevrolet-Pontiac Inc. in Cromwell. He was a member of the American Legion Post 243 in Ligonier and a fan and collector of NASCAR racing memorabilia.

He was born in Silver Lake October 10, 1939, to Claude O. and Ilene Marie (Gaff) Fear. He lived in Akron as a youth and moved to Noble County and graduated from Avilla High School in 1957. After high school, he served in the U.S. Army until 1962.

He married Sharon Starkey February 8, 1963, in Wolf Lake. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Kim and Dan Filley and Tammy and Brian Guthrie, all of Albion; his mother, Ilene M. Gordon of Avilla; a sister, Sandy F. Thomas, of Indianapolis; two brothers and a sister-in-law, James L. Fear of Blairsville, PA, and Dennis A. and Linda Gordon of Fort Wayne; and six grandchildren, Courtney, Tanner and Cara Guthrie and Lyndi, Jesse and Dakota Filley.

He was preceded in death by his father, Claude O.; and a brother, Charles Robert Fear.

Services were held Wednesday, April 9, 2003, at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Dan Carlson of Wolf Lake Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Bette Heinlen

KENDALLVILLE – Bette L. Heinlen, 70, died Tuesday, April 1, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital. She had been ill for several years.

She was employed for over 20 years at the V & A Restaurant, as well as by Kenny Gardner at Publix Cafe, Maloley's Grocery Store and Rogers Markets, all in Kendallville. She had been site director for the Council on Aging. She was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church and Ladies Aid in Avilla. She was former vice chairwoman of the American Cancer Society of Noble County, and former member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion and V.F.W., both in Kendallville.

She was born in Kendallville February 24, 1933, to Frank and Hilda (Mathews) Wogoman, but was raised by her grandmother, Anna Mathews.

She married Loren Edwin Heinlen February 12, 1952, in South Bend. He survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Loren and Valerie Heinlen, Jr. of LaGrange; three daughters and sons-in-law, Kim and Tom Pippenger of Kendallville, Lori and Tracy Cooper of Albion and Kari and Mike Bianski of Kendallville; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Patricia Jones.

Services were Friday, April 4, 2003, at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Dean Bearman of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Avilla officiating. Burial was in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

Memorials are to the Noble County Chapter of the American Cancer Society, Immanuel Lutheran Church Ladies Aid or Heartland Home Healthcare.

ALBION NEW ERA
APRIL 9 2003

Mark D. Wentworth

WAWAKA — Mark D. Wentworth, 44, of Wawaka, died Sunday, April 6, 2003.

Mr. Wentworth was employed by Coachmen Industries in Middlebury. He was a member of Eagles Lodge, Moose Lodge, and Sons of the American Legion Post 86, all in Kendallville, and White Tails Unlimited.

He was born June 10, 1958, to Roy Jr. and Fern (Krotzer) Wentworth.

He married Jill Boszer March 30, 1996, in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are his mother, Fern Wentworth of Wawaka; two sons, Mark Wentworth, Jr. of Kendallville and Justin Yates of Wawaka; two daughters, Nicole Wentworth of Kendallville and Alexis Yates of Wawaka; three brothers, Michael Wentworth of Kendallville, Mitchell Wentworth of Angola and Matthew Wentworth of Wawaka; two sisters, Michelle Barden of Syracuse and Melanie Layne of Wawaka; and a granddaughter, Saige Days of Avilla.

His father preceded him in death July 6, 1999.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville. Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at the funeral home, with the Rev. Paul B. Griebel officiating. Burial will be in South Milford Cemetery.

Russell Larry Duckworth

DECATUR, Illinois — Russell Larry Duckworth, 65, of Decatur, IL, died at 3:30 p.m., Monday, March 31, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Duckworth was born August 26, 1937, in Garrett, Indiana, the son of Russell Sherman and Jessie Matteson Duckworth. He graduated from Albion High School, Albion, Indiana, in 1955. He served in the U.S. Army, stationed in Japan from 1955 to 1958. He was employed by Rand McNally Printing in Decatur before owning and operating Franklin Fastprint for 20 years. Larry was currently employed by Bachrach Clothing Corporation.

On September 2, 1960, he married Jean Ann Evans, in Decatur, IL. She survives.

Other survivors are a daughter, Jacqueline McQuality of Forsyth; sons, James of Decatur; Jeffrey and his wife, Rita, of Fairview Heights; grandsons Mitchell and Sean Duckworth of Decatur; granddaughters, Brittany McQuality of Forsyth; Jacoby Duckworth of Fairview Heights; a sister, Rosalee Duckworth of Cerro Gordo; a brother, Burton "Skip" and his wife, Susie, of Milwaukee, WI; an uncle, Wray Matteson of Albion, IN; a cousin, Cheryl Leatherman of Albion, IN; an aunt, Mildred Baker of Logansport, IN. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Services were at Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home and burial was in Graceland Cemetery in Decatur, Illinois. Memorials are to Millikin University Scholarship Fund, Decatur, IL.

Connie Winebrenner

LAGRANGE – Connie May Winebrenner, 61, died Saturday, April 5, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was employed at ARC Opportunities Inc. of Howe. She had lived in Angola and South Bend before moving to LaGrange.

She was born in Allen County February 4, 1942, to Paul M. and Evelyn (Starrett) Winebrenner. Her mother survives in Bonita Springs, FL.

Also surviving are two sisters, Lois Mullinax of Robinsville, NC, and Paulette McDonald of Millersburg; and two brothers Gail D. and Dale A. Winebrenner, both of Albion.

She was preceded in death by her father, Paul Winebrenner.

Service arrangements are pending. Burial will be at Greenlawn Cemetery, Orland, at a later date.

Frurip-May Funeral Home of LaGrange is in charge of the arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

APRIL 10

Kendallville, Indiana

Mike Brown

LAGRANGE — Mike "The Outlaw" Brown, 62, who raced super late model stock cars in the tri-state area for 27 years, died Wednesday, April 9, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a lifelong resident of LaGrange. He retired after 36 years at Machine Rite Products of LaGrange. He was a member of LaGrange Moose Lodge 1351.

He was born in LaGrange Nov. 2, 1940, to William O. and Reva K. (Williams) Brown.

He married Linda M. Lewis Aug. 20, 1967, in LaGrange. She survives.

Also surviving are four daughters and two sons-in-law, Pat and Dave Peters, Merlann Lehman and Laura Lehman, all of LaGrange, and Kelly and Doug Hakeos of Columbia City; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Robert Brown of LaGrange and James and Sally Brown of Coldwater. Mich.; two sisters, Freda Penrod of Las Vegas and Sharon L. Myers of Sturgis, Mich.; 16 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

A brother, Robert Brown, preceded him in death in 1934.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with eulogist Jim Benson officiating. Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery at a later date.

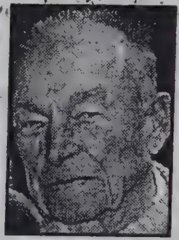
Calling will be today from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct information provided by the funeral home.

Clifford Parks

KENDALLVILLE — Clifford E. Parks, 81, died Monday, April 7, 2003, in Auburn.

He graduated from Avilla High School in 1940. He was employed with the Carpenters Union Local 232, Fort Wayne, for 45 years, retiring in 1987.



Mr. Parks

He was born in Allen Township, Noble County, Jan. 19, 1922, to Howard and Arlene (Wooster) Parks.

He married Joann Helen Swinehart on Jan. 22, 1961, in Avilla. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and one daughter-in-law, Larry Parks of New Port Richey, Fla., and Kevin and Tami Parks of Kendallville; one daughter and son-in-law, Kelly and Bob Bolen of Kendallville; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Jeanette and Harry Henney and Ellen and Bishop Holyman, all of Woodburn, and Helen Fritz of Avilla; three brothers and two sisters-in-law, Donald and Helen Parks, Forrest and Mona Parks and Richard Parks, all of Kendallville; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services will be today at 7 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, with the Rev. Dr. Leonard King of Calvary United Methodist Church in Avilla officiating. Burial will be at a later date.

Calling will be today from 3 to 7 p.m.

Memorials are to Calvary United Methodist Church in Avilla or the Northeast Indiana Dialysis Center in Auburn.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 10
Kendallville, Indiana

The following obituary is being reprinted to add interment information.

Nevah Fulk

CHURUBUSCO — Nevah M. Fulk, 77, died at 8:02 a.m. Tuesday, April 8, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla, where she had been a patient for over five years.

Mrs. Fulk

She graduated from Churubusco High School in 1944. She and her husband moved to San Antonio, Texas, in 1957, and then to Miami, Fla., in 1961, before returning to Churubusco in 1993.

She had been a cafeteria worker in the Dade County Schools in Miami for over 30 years. She was a member of Wayside Baptist Church in Miami. She had also been a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority and Pytheon Sisters in Churubusco.

She was born in Churubusco March 6, 1926, to Thomas and Maude Elizabeth (Bennett) Gaff.

She married Alton Lee Fulk April 21, 1946, in Churubusco. He survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Rose Ann and Paul Herkenratt of Cocoa, Fla.; three sons and two daughters-in-law, William L. "Bill" Fulk of Churubusco, Joseph and Denise Fulk and James and Jackie Fulk, all of Cocoa, Fla.; five brothers and three sisters-in-law, Thurlo "Frog" Gaff of LaOtto, Rodger Gaff of Nappanee, John and Arlene Gaff of Columbia City, Raymond L. and Katie Gaff of Muncie and Leonard "Jake" and Linda Gaff of Huntertown; four sisters and a brother-in-law, Ilene M. Gordon of Avilla, Mary Gray of Churubusco, Barbara and Ray Leitch of New London, Iowa, and Shirley Stamp of Churubusco; and six granddaughters.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Carl E. Gaff, who died Nov. 23, 1996; and a sister, Willodean Kirkpatrick, who died Jan. 31, 2000.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs of Churubusco United Methodist Church officiating. Interment will be at Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Alzheimer's Unit at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Charleen Lash

AVILLA — Charleen L. Lash, 85, died at 12:48 a.m. Thursday, April 10, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker and lifelong resident of the community. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Mrs. Lash

She was born in Decatur July 12, 1917, to John and Mary (Smith) Wilson.

She married Albert F. Lash May 12, 1938, in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla. He died Oct. 22, 1983.

Surviving are four sons, Fred of Pittsburgh, Pa., Dennis of Angola, Jeffery of LaGrange and Samuel of Rome City; two daughters and sons-in-law, Beth and Gail Allread of Brownsburg, and Joyce and Steve Sims of Garrett; 23 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; a sister, Ruth Traxler of Goshen; and a sister-in-law, Bertha Wilson of Payne, Ohio.

Preceding her in death were a daughter Louise Ladig; and two brothers, Deward and Woodrow Wilson.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, with Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Burial will be at the church cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m., with rosary at 7 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to St. Mary's Church or School.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Dishmon Combs** were held Wednesday at 2 p.m. at New Hope Baptist Church, with the Rev. Jeffrey Hipley officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Keith Bailey, Bob Combs, Jerry McCann, Steve Combs, Darrel Jacobs and Ferd Thurman.

Hite Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Mark D. Wentworth** were held Thursday at 1 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Paul Griebel officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

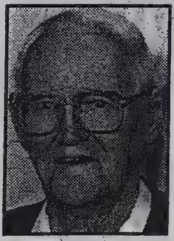
Pallbearers were Tony Altimus, Wade Sturdivant, Kenny Gohn, Gayle Barden, Jeremy Barden, Jason Barden and Mark Wentworth Jr.

Honorary pallbearers were Todd Hicks, Justin Yates, Mike Howard and Don Smith.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 12
Kendallville, Indiana

Raymond Stump

ALBION — Raymond Stump, 91, died at 1 p.m. Thursday, April 10, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Columbia City.



Mr. Stump

He was born in Washington Township, Noble County, Nov. 11, 1911, to George and Saloma Elizabeth Stroh Stump.

He was the class of 1929 valedictorian for Wolf Lake High School, and attended Purdue University. In addition to farming, he was employed at the Dana Weatherhead Co. in the maintenance department for more than 25 years.

He was a member of Wolf Lake Baptist Church, served on the Noble Township Advisory Board, and worked with Noble County 4-H clubs for many years.

He married Mary Kathryn Mahnesmith March 1, 1936. She died Nov. 16, 2002.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Sue A. and Lawrence Emerson of Rome City; five sons and daughters-in-law, Kenneth R. and Nancy Stump of Ligonier, Ned H. and Nancy J. Stump of LaGrange, Thomas G. and Mary Anna Stump of Avilla, Daniel K. and Mendy Stump of Albion, and Kevin W. and Kim Stump of Albion; 23 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were a sister, Inez Betty Ott; and three brothers, Irving Jay, Harley Stroh Stump and George Himes.

Services will be Monday at 10:30 a.m. at Wolf Lake Baptist Church, with the Rev. Dan Carlson officiating. Burial will be at Thorn Cemetery in Ormas.

Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Smith & Sons Funeral Home in Columbia City, and one hour before the service at the church.

Memorials may be made to Wolf Lake Baptist Church or the Gideon's.

Daniel L. Harley Sr.

KENDALLVILLE — Daniel L. Harley Sr., 87, died Saturday, April 12, 2003, at the Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville.

Mr. Harley

He was born June 16, 1915, in Bourbon, to George and Millie (Gaskill) Harley. He married Kathleen R. Conrad July 25, 1941, in Noble County. She died Aug. 20, 1986.

A graduate of Atwood High School, he was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. He had worked at Flint & Walling Manufacturing, Kendallville and Bowser in Fort Wayne. He retired from Kraft Foods, Kendallville, after 20 years in the maintenance department.

He was a member of the National Association of Uniformed Services, American Legion Post 86 and Veterans of Foreign Wars 2647 in Kendallville.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Donald Miller, Kendallville; a son and his companion, Daniel L. Harley and Carol Flint, Kendallville; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Donald and Kay Harley of Syracuse and Walter and Nell Harley of Holly, Florida; a sister-in-law, Clara Harley of Aransas Pass, Texas; four grandchildren, Rhonda Baker, Rachelle Gleason, Trina Amburgey, Melanie Perkins and Ron Miller; and 12 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

He also was preceded in death by four brothers and one sister.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Hite Funeral Home, 403 S. Main St., Kendallville, with burial in Orange Cemetery, Brimfield. Calling is from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville. Condolences may be sent to www.hitefuneralhome.com

Phyllis May Harter

AUBURN — Phyllis May Harter, 86, died at 6:36 a.m. Saturday, April 12, 2003, at the home of her daughter at Cedar Lake, Howe.

Mrs. Harter

She was born Aug. 18, 1916, in LaGrange County, to Carl and May (Scott) Willard. She married Ernest Harter Sept. 15, 1937, in Columbia City. He died Aug. 7, 1962.

Mrs. Harter was a nurse at Souder Hospital in Auburn and in the office of Dr. Harry Covell from 1962 until 1986.

Surviving are two sons, Carl Harter of San Jose, Calif., and Peter Harter of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Nancy George, South Bend, and Miriam Carnahan, Howe; a sister, Louise Payne, St. Petersburg, Fla.; 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Ransom, Carl and Joe Willard.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Auburn Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. William Haworth officiating. Burial will be in Cedar Creek Chapel Cemetery, Garrett. Calling is from 3-5 and 7-9 p.m. Tuesday at the Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, and one hour before the service at the church.

Memorials are to the Auburn Presbyterian Church.

Evelyn Jewel

AUBURN — Evelyn M. Jewel, 85, died at 2:15 a.m. Saturday at Miller's Merry Manor, Garrett.

Mrs. Jewel

She was born July 13, 1917, in Detroit, to Albert P. and Carrie (White) Steiger. She married the Rev. G. Raymond Jewel March 13, 1938, in East Detroit, Mich. He died May 10,1984.

Mrs. Jewel worked in the insurance department at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne, 26-1/2 years, retiring in 1980. She was a member of the Auburn Church of the Nazarene, Ambassadors Club of Parkview Hospital, and was a licensed minister with the United Brethren Church in the 1940s. She was valedictorian of her class at Anchor Bay Bible Institute, Anchor Bay, Mich.

Surviving are a daughter, Donna M. Clark, Spencerville; two sons, Donald Ray Jewel, Auburn, and David B. Jewel, North Royalton, Ohio; three grandchildren, Douglas Jewel, Eleanore Ramsey and Jonathan Jewel; three step-grandchildren, Thomas Clark, Nancy Gruber and Barbara Merkle; and 12 step-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one son, Ronald L. Jewel; and three brothers, Clarence Reliford, Arthur C. and Albert P. Steiger.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with burial in Convoy IOOF Cemetery, Convoy, Ohio.

Calling is from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Gideons. E-mail condolences to: sympathy @fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 13
Kendallville, Indiana

Trains, fishing made wonderful memories

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

GARRETT — With the exception of the time he spent in the Marine Corps during the Korean War, Dale L. Loutzenhiser Jr. spent his entire life in Garrett, "very happy to call this his hometown," according to his wife of nearly 50 years, Hilda.

He was proud to have been a Marine, Hilda pointed out. "It was during his time in the service that we met," she said. They married in Santa Ana, Calif., April 12, 1953.

Mr. Loutzenhiser died April 2, 2003, after "a very tough year" that saw heart attacks, bypass surgery, strokes, kidney failure and dialysis, said son Tim Loutzenhiser.

"Pop pulled through many times with the odds always against him; I think we all thought that Pop could make it one more time," his son said. "Mom and Pop were looking forward to taking all the kids out to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary."

Mr. Loutzenhiser

Mr. Loutzenhiser died April 2, at the age of 71.

He retired from Mossberg Industries after 46 years in 1995. A member of the Garrett Historical Society, he was frequently called on to guide tours at the city's railroad museum.

"Dale really loved trains," his wife said. "When he was a little boy he was fascinated by the Interurban Railroad that ran through Garrett, and he spent a lot of time playing by the B&O rail yard where he developed a love for steam engines.

"He also spent much time fishing with his parents, and later in life he loved to take Tim fishing on Story Lake. They never caught a lot of fish, but they always took home wonderful memories," Hilda said.

Son Tim also learned to love railroading, and father and son spent a lot of time with model trains, chasing trains and taking pictures and making videos, she said.

"He really loved his children, and he was a great father," Hilda said. He never missed seeing his daughter, Paula, perform with the band, and that carried over to his grandchildren and their school concerts.

"One of his greatest joys was his cat, Chessie," Hilda noted. He described sitting in a chair with his cat on his lap as "That's living!" Hilda said.

Mrs. Loutzenhiser said she is grateful for the many years she had with her husband.

"What we learned from Pop was to always love one another, to be patient, not to say things we don't really mean, and to be tolerant, no matter how hard that might be," she said.

"Dale has taken a train to a much better place, and his family was fortunate to be able to wave goodbye as he boarded the train," she said.

Mrs. Grady remembered as kind, creative

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — Mary "Nancy" Grady, 80, who died Feb. 8, 2003, was a homemaker, beautician and real estate agent. She was a creative, visionary woman, with lots of good ideas, according to longtime friend and associate Gene Gatton.

Mrs. Grady

Mrs. Grady and her husband established one of the city's first planned neighborhoods, and it was Mrs. Grady who named it — Friendly Village. Gatton remembers Mrs. Grady from their days together in Garrett.

During the Great Depression, the WPA built the Garrett swimming pool and the girls often found themselves there. Gatton said, "Nancy was so beautiful. She was an 'Esther Williams type.'" Not only was she an excellent swimmer, but Gatton said Nancy made her feel skinny and unattractive.

She said her friend eventually caught the eye of an up-and-coming man from over in Kendallville, Edward Grady.

"He was crazy about her," said Gatton.

The couple were married on Independence Day in 1941. She lived in Kendallville for the next 68 years.

Mrs. Grady busied herself with helping her husband in his real estate business, as well as becoming an active member of Eastern Star and the Elks and Eagles auxiliary organizations.

Another of her ideas was the founding of The Bargain Shop, an outreach program through First Christian Church.

Several years ago a woman known as "the bag lady," wandered the streets of Kendallville and often found herself near The Bargain Shop, which happened to be next door to a tavern. Much to the consternation of her co-workers, Mrs. Grady allowed the woman into the shop before she opened to the public.

"She let her use the lavatory to get cleaned up a little," said Gatton. "She wasn't hurting anything," said Gatton. "Some of the others didn't like it, but I thought it was wonderful of Nancy," she added.

Gatton published a story about the bag lady, and the first one to call and congratulate her was none other than Mrs. Grady. She said she thought it was touching. Perhaps it reminded her of her own youth, somehow.

Gatton knew something about Mrs. Grady that most folks probably didn't. She had known poverty. As a young girl, living through the Depression, and from a poor background, she wore out the soles of her shoes walking back and forth to school, from one end of town to the other. She did what many people did back then. She put pieces of cardboard in the bottom of her shoes to keep from rubbing her feet against the ground. She joked that the best "sole" she ever used was the thick cover of a book by James Whitcomb Riley.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 13

Kendallville, Indiana

Mr. Jones loved flying and bicycling

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

CLEAR LAKE — Until he was well into his 70s, Willard "Bill" Jones was a familiar face out and about at Clear Lake.

"He rode his bike around the lake three times a day," said Mr. Jones' daughter, Babs Merkert. "And the lake is 6 1/2 miles. Everyone knew who he was and knew he'd be coming. It was all, 'Hi, Bill,' 'How you doing, Bill?'"

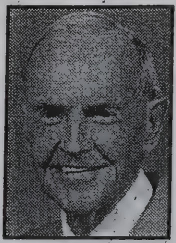
Mr. Jones, 85, died Wednesday, April 9, 2003, at St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis. He was born Feb. 18, 1918, in Venedocia, Ohio, to David "D.O." and Margaret (Reese) Jones. He married Jeanne A. Shookman on Nov. 22, 1940, and she preceded him in death on July 10, 1999.

Mr. Jones' daughter-in-law, Ruth, described her father-in-law as "very social."

"He was everyone's friend," she said.

Babs agreed that "everyone" knew her father.

"We couldn't go down half an aisle in the grocery store without someone stopping him to say they hadn't seen him in a while and asking how he was," she said.


Mr. Jones

Mr. Jones had worked in various sales-related positions, including General Homes, real estate and brokerage firms. He retired in the 1990s from Merrill Lynch.

After graduation from South Side High School in 1936, Mr. Jones attended Indiana University, graduating from the school of business in 1941. While in advanced business education for Armstrong Cork at Harvard, World War II broke out. He enlisted in the U.S. Army, and became a pilot in the Army Air Corps.

Mr. Jones' service to the country included training hundreds of pilots in advanced twin-engine school, using AT-9, AT-10, AT-17 and B-25 type aircraft, as well as piloting B-24 type aircraft.

When he left active duty, he was a squadron commander, and was then a reserve in the U.S. Air Force until May 1955. After his time in the service, he acquired a personal pilot's license.

"He loved flying," Babs said. "Right up until the end, some of his most vivid memories were of the time he spent in the service."

Babs said she loved to fly with her father, and that she had complete trust in his abilities as a pilot.

"I didn't fly on a commercial plane until I was in college," she said. "It was cool."

Mr. Jones lived in Fort Wayne until he retired, when he moved to Clear Lake. He had lived in an assisted living community in Indianapolis since 1999, because a battle with dementia left him unable to live alone.

Both in Fort Wayne and at Clear Lake, he was active in the community. He had been a member of the Clear Lake Lions Club, Clear Lake Town Board, Clear Lake Luther Church, Mizpah Shrine Temple, Scottish Rite, and was mason with Sol D. Bayle Lodge.

He was an avid handba racquetball and tennis playe as well as a bicyclist. He ha also been a member of the Fo Wayne YMCA, Clear Lak Yacht and Tennis clubs, an the Angola Health Club.

"He was very athletic, Ruth said.

Babs said her father love the lake and summer sports.

"When we were kids, h pulled us skiing behind th boat for hours," she said.

Also surviving are tw sons, Dr. Steven M. Jones an Mark A. Jones, a sister-in-law Dorothy Jones, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; four nephews and thre nieces.

Family, Ruth said, wa something that always meant great deal to Mr. Jones.

"He was a wonderful fathe and he loved his grandchildren," she said. "I think that's what we would like people to know about him."

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 14
Kendallville, Indiana

Ross Bair

KENDALLVILLE — Ross W. Bair, 88, died Sunday, April 13, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

He was a mechanic for J.R. Stonebraker and Evers Motor Sales in Kendallville and was part owner of Kendallville Hardware for many years until it closed. He then worked in hardware for J.O. Mory in South Milford until his retirement.

He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, past member of F. & A.M. Lodge 276 and past member of the Lions Club, all in Kendallville. He enjoyed fishing.

He was born in Hudson June 5, 1914, to Royal and Catherine (McClish) Bair.

He married Wilma Hay March 5, 1938, in Rochester. She survives.

Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by two brothers and two sisters.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Stanley Kessler officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Presbyterian Church in Kendallville or Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Lee Streich

KENDALLVILLE — Lee E. Streich, 62, died at approximately 7:50 a.m. Saturday, April 12, 2003.

Services are pending at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home.

Carol Taylor

HOWE — Carol L. Taylor, 44, died at 6:40 p.m. Friday, April 11, 2003, at Sturgis Memorial Hospital in Sturgis, Mich.

She worked as a registered nurse at Sturgis Memorial Hospital.

She was born in Sturgis April 9, 1959, to Robert and Norma (Myers) Meese.

She married Michael Taylor Aug. 25, 1978, in Sturgis. He survives in Howe.

Also surviving are three daughters and one son-in-law, Amanda and Jenna Taylor, both of Howe, and Marcia and Dan Cripe of Centreville, Mich.; one son, Neil Taylor of Howe; her mother, Norma Meese of Sturgis; one sister, Sara Main of Holland, Mich.; three brothers, Michael Meese of Burr Oak, Mich., Robin Meese of Sturgis and Jeff Meese of Centreville; and one granddaughter, Taylor Cripe.

Her father preceded her in death.

Memorial services will be Wednesday at 3 p.m. Indiana time at First Baptist Church in Sturgis, with the Rev. James Bender officiating. Burial will be at Ontario Cemetery at a later date.

Calling will be Tuesday from noon to 8 p.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe.

Memorials are to the Employee Crisis Fund of Sturgis Hospital.

Joseph Yoder

LIGONIER — Joseph Yoder was stillborn at 1:27 a.m. Saturday, April 12, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

Surviving are his parents, Daniel J. and Laura C. (Wickey) Yoder; two brothers, Israel and Caleb Yoder, at home; two sisters, Naomi and Abigail Yoder, at home; paternal grandparents, John A. and Lydia Mae Yoder of Sarasota, Fla.; maternal grandparents, Corneal A. and Lena A. Wickey of LaGrange; and maternal great-grandparents, Emma Wickey of Millroy and Adam and Malinda Schrock of Bloomfield, Iowa.

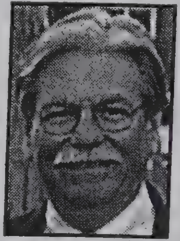
Private family services will be held at a later date.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana
APRIL 15

Michael Barth

AUBURN — Michael R. Barth, 57, died Sunday, April 13, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.


Mr. Barth

Mr. Barth worked as a corporate division purchasing agent for Dana Corp. in Fort Wayne. He was a member of the Auburn Lions Club and the Clear Lake Association. He was a 1965 graduate of Avilla High School. He attended the Fort Wayne Art Institute and was a graduate of Oakland Community College.

He was born Dec. 31, 1945, in Brighton, England, to Rodney N. and Elizabeth (Ewen) Barth. His father survives in Lake Panasoffkee, Fla.

He married Mary Ann Pepple on Jan. 15, 1966, in LaOtto. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Michael Gregory Barth and Julie Barth of Hicksville, Ohio, and Jonathan D. and Lisa Barth of Auburn; two brothers, Steve Barth of Auburn and Robert Barth of Richmond; a sister, Deb Underwood of Auburn; and two grandchildren, Christman and Caroline Barth.

Services will be Thursday at noon in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. Father Daniel Leeuw and the Rev. Deacon Gordon Samra will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery of Auburn.

Calling is Wednesday from 1-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Michael Barth Art Scholarship Fund.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Lee Streich

KENDALLVILLE — Lee Edward Streich, 62, died at 7:35 a.m. Saturday, April 12, 2003.

Mr. Streich

He was a lifelong Kendallville resident. He worked as a pressman at Modern Printing and was a member of Moose Lodge 1301 and Sons of the Legion Squad 86, all in Kendallville.

He was born in Kendallville Oct. 16, 1940, to Edward R. and Virginia J. (Kline) Streich.

He married Nancy Casselman June 24, 1961, in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Kimberly and Keith Moore of Port Charlotte, Fla.; two sons, Kevin Streich of Jupiter, Fla., and Kyle Streich of Kendallville; and a brother and sister-in-law, Craig and Jackie Streich of Rome City.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. James Toole of Faith United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery at a later date.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Charles Klink

ASHLEY — Charles A. Klink, 71, died Sunday, April 13, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Angola.

Mr. Klink was born Feb. 18, 1932, in Salem Center, to Wayne E. and Lilly May (Feeney) Klink. He married Evalene Davis on Feb. 13, 1954, in Reno, Nev. She survives.

He was a retired Steuben County farmer. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, and served in the Korean conflict.

He was a member of Orland American Legion Post No. 423, and was a board member of the Steuben County Rural Electric Membership Corp. for 21 years. He belonged to the Steuben County Antique Steam and Gas Engine Club. He enjoyed traveling.

Also surviving are five sons, Charles A. Jr. of Angola, Bruce A. of Ashley, Kurtis W. of Barstow, Calif., Fred D. of Garrett and Jeffrey S. of Hudson; a daughter, Vickie Lynn Little of Puyallup, Wash.; five brothers, Michael of Tarpon Springs, Fla., Richard C. of Angola, Wayne Jr. of Ashley, George of South Milford and Kelley of Angola; five sisters, Mable Bowers of Fillmore, Calif., Linda Buss of Bad Axe, Mich., Mary Rhinehart of Ashley, Ruth Ann Rowlison of Cadiz, Ky. and Lillie Lou Till of Fort Wayne; 15 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Johnson-Klink Funeral Home, Angola, with the Rev. Craig E. Burkholder officiating. Calling will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and two hours before services on Thursday.

Burial will be in Mt. Zion Cemetery, Pleasant Lake.

Memorials are to Disabled American Veterans or Riley Hospital for Children.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 15
Kendallville, Indiana

Joseph Slabach

Mr. Slabach

GOSHEN — Joseph J. Slabach, 87, died at 9:20 p.m. Sunday, April 13, 2003, at his home.

He had worked as a carpenter, school custodian and in engineering. He was active in various churches as a Sunday school teacher and church planter for Grace Bible College satellite churches and a Nazarene church in the Missouri Ozarks. He was chairman of the Mennonite Disaster Committee during the Palm Sunday tornadoes of 1965. He was a member of New Paris Church of the Nazarene.

He was born in Midland, Mich., Jan. 24, 1916, to Joseph J. and Fannie (Miller) Slabach.

He married Betty Bontrager Dec. 21, 1941, in Middlebury. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Cynthia Ellen and Clayton Stauffer of Port Treverton, Pa.; a son and daughter-in-law, Anthony Wayne and Marilyn Slabach of Bakersfield, Calif.; two grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and two brothers and sisters-in-law, Fred and Lillian Slabach of Middlebury and Irvan and Alma Slabach of Roanoke.

He was preceded in death by a grandson, Jeffery Dean Slabach; five brothers, Roman, Daniel, William, Albert and Abner Slabach; and two sisters, Amanda Hochstetler and Mary Ann Good.

Services will be Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at Shipshewana Church of the Nazarene, with Nazarene pastors the Revs. Don Meiner of New Paris and Gary Klinger of Shipshewana officiating. Burial will be at Grace Lawn Cemetery in Middlebury.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Shipshewana Church of the Nazarene.

Memorials are to mission projects of New Paris Church of the Nazarene.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Kathryn Northup

FORT WAYNE — Kathryn Northup, 81, died Monday, April 14, 2003, at home.

She was born in LaGrange County. She was a homemaker and member of Park Forest Church of God.

Surviving are her husband, Harold A. Northup of Fort Wayne; a son, Larry Northup of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Brenda Neuenschwander of Fort Wayne; and grandchildren, Wayne and Angela Northup and Jeff and Greg Neuenschwander.

She was preceded in death by four sisters; and two brothers.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, 1320 E. Dupont Road. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Calling will be Wednesday from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Edward Behm

ALBION — Edward Erwin Behm, 68, died at 4:45 p.m. Monday, April 14, 2003, at his daughter's Ligonier residence.

He was employed as a meat cutter for Marsh Super Market in Muncie and Warsaw. Since 1997, he has resided at Bear Lake, Noble County, and he formerly resided in Muncie and Wapakoneta, Ohio, in the mid 1960s, and at Big Lake, Noble County, for 28 years. He was a volunteer for the Big Lake Fire Department and Toastmasters International. After graduating in 1952 from Cowan High School in Muncie, he attended Ball State University for one year. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves and was discharged in 1962.

He was born in Jackson, Mich., July 6, 1934, to Edward and Thelma (Koontz) Behm.

He married Carolyn Sue Farmer on July 17, 1955, in the Lutheran Church in Muncie. She survives in Albion.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Cathy L. Smith of South Bend and Jeni and Steve Weigold of Ligonier; three sons and daughters-in-law, David A. and Polly Behm, Dan E. and Joanne Behm, and Dennis R. and Karen Behm, all of Columbia City; a brother and sister-in-law, Donald and Willa Behm of Muncie; a sister, Marti Ayres of Tucson, Ariz.; 12 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his parents, a stepmother, Mae Behm, and a brother, Fred Behm.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Daniel Harley Sr.** were held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Roger Olson officiating. Burial was in Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Pallbearers were Ron Miller, Randy Tumamak, Rob Gleason, Dean Baker, Kyle Baker and Kevin Baker.

Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City, with Chaplain Ken Weaver from Parkview Hospice Home and Health Care officiating. Burial will be at Thorn Cemetery, Ormas, in Noble County.

Calling will be Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Parkview Hospice of Fort Wayne, or Parkinson's Foundation. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home. For additional information, visit www.demoneygrimes.com.

Phyllis Lawson

MONTGOMERY, Mich. — Phyllis "Jean" Lawson, 73, died Tuesday, April 15, 2003, at Hillsdale Medical Center in Hillsdale, Mich.

Mrs. Lawson was born Feb. 5, 1930, in Fort Wayne, to Earl and Velma (Baumgardner) Zion. She married Forrest Lawson on Feb. 14, 1950, in LaGrange. He survives.

She was a homemaker.

Also surviving are five daughters, Vickie Burd of Fort Wayne, Kathy Lonabarger of Pioneer, Ohio, Cynthia Champion of Camden, Mich., Lucy Keegan of Montgomery and Julie Creighton of Sarasota, Fla.; three sons, Robert of LaGrange and Danny and Randy, both of Camden; two brothers, Jonny Zion of Austin, Texas and Clarence Zion of Ohio; 31 grandchildren, 49 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two daughters, Rebecca Lynn Lawson and Geraldine Fuller; a sister, Jackie McNish; a brother, Bud Zion; and a grandson, Michael Burd.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Beams Funeral Home, Fremont, with the Rev. Leburn Combs officiating.

Calling is from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday.

Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery, Fremont.

Memorials are to Veteran's Administration Hospital, Ann Arbor, Mich.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 16
Kendallville, Indiana

Henry Stevens

AUBURN — Henry Stevens, 71, died Tuesday, April 15, 2003, at 12:50 p.m. in Betz Nursing Home of Auburn.

Mr. Stevens was the owner and operator of A-1 Janitorial. He served with the U.S. Army in Korea.

He was born Sept. 21, 1931, in Kentucky to Warnie and Cora (Patton) Stephens.

Surviving are three sons, Calvin W. Stevens of Garrett, Timothy J. Stevens of Waterloo and Shane Stevens of Auburn; two daughters, Linda S. Coons of Auburn and Julie A. Voirol of Corunna; four brothers, Willie Stephens of Corunna, Clinton Stephens of Waterloo, Grover Stephens of Kendallville and Gary Stephens of Coldwater, Mich.; eight sisters, Bertha Vanderpool of Plymouth, Ohio, Athna Gamble of Kendallville, Susie Miller of Mishawaka, Melba Miller Daring of Wolcottville, Brenda Davidson of Auburn, Harweda Clark of Hicksville, Ohio, Carla Blech of Coldwater, Mich., and Herma Fields of Auburn; 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one daughter, Rita Cox; two brothers, Cletus and Clayton Stephens; and two sisters, Edna Lucas and Karen Kay Stephens.

Services will be held Friday at 10 a.m. in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. The Rev. Ralph Diehl will officiate. Burial will be in Corunna Cemetery.

Calling is Thursday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the City of Auburn Parks Department wildlife fund.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Katherine Martin

BUTLER — Katherine E. Martin, 50, died Monday, April 14, 2003, at 4:10 p.m. at her home.

Mrs. Martin worked as an assembler at Colwell General in Kendallville for 15 years.

She was born Sept. 25, 1952, in Angola to Keith and Harriett (Middaugh) Baker. Her father survives in Waterloo. Her mother preceded her in death.

She married Robert L. Martin on Sept. 27, 1986, in Hindman, Ky. He survives in Butler.

Also surviving are five sons, Harvey Martin of Garrett, Ky., Robert Martin of Corunna, Glen Martin of Butler, Adam Fluke of Butler and Nathaniel Fluke of St. Joe; one daughter, Teresa Paxton of Kendallville; three brothers, two sisters and six grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in Hall Funeral Home at Martin, Ky. Burial will be in Martin Cemetery at Wayland, Ky.

Calling is Thursday from 5-10 p.m. at the funeral home.

Local arrangements are being handled by H.E. Johnson & Son Funeral Home of Butler.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 17

Kendallville, Indiana

Lawrence Sampson

Mr. Sampson

FORT WAYNE — Lawrence Edward "Larry" Sampson, 43, died at 4 a.m. Wednesday, April 16, 2003, at his home.

He was the assistant manager at S&L Truck Stop for 10 years, and manager at Bi-Rite from 1986 to 1993. He began working at Dana Corp. in Churubusco in 1990, and was a member of Dana's bowling league. An auto accident in August 1997 left him disabled.

He moved from Sturgis, Mich., to Columbia City in 1959. He graduated from Columbia City Joint High School.

He was born in Sturgis Aug. 25, 1959, to Allen Vern and Edna C. (Miller) Sampson.

He married Susan K. Davis Oct. 8, 1994. She survives in Fort Wayne.

Also surviving are his mother, Edna Sampson of Columbia City; three sons, Danny K. Wallace Jr. of Fort Wayne; Rodney E. Wallace and Dax E. Wallace, both of Churubusco; 11 grandchildren; two brothers, Ricky A. Sampson of Columbia City and Jerry W. Sampson of Albion; a sister, Linda D. Barkman of Hicksville, Ohio; and four half brothers, Albert E. Smith of Columbia City, and Larry Sampson, Keith Sampson and Robert Sampson, all of Chicago.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Services will be Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Smith & Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with the Rev. Thomas Beers of Columbia City Church of the Nazarene officiating. Burial will be at LIndenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Hospice or St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Jenna Yutzy

MIDDLEBURY — Jenna Elaine Yutzy was stillborn at 7:52 a.m. Wednesday, April 16, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital.

Surviving are her parents, Marion and Jean (Stutzman) Yutzy of Middlebury; grandparents, Kenneth and Erma Stutzman of Middlebury and Eli Yutzy of Goshen; great-grandmothers, Edna Troyer of Millersburg and Ida Stutzman of Middlebury; and two brothers, Darin Joe Yutzy and Marcus Jon Yutzy, both at home.

She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Mary Ellen Yutzy, on June 4, 2001.

Graveside services will be today at 1:30 p.m. at Miller-Glick-Stutzman Cemetery in Middlebury, with Bishop Daniel Yoder of the Old Order Amish Church officiating.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home of Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Richard Garman Sr.

PLEASANT LAKE — Richard B. Garman Sr., 69, died Tuesday, April 15, 2003, at home.

Mr. Garman was born in Huntertown on March 1, 1934, to Edgar and Mabel (Kugler) Garman. He retired from International Harvester after 23 years.

He married Arlene D. Kester on Dec. 12, 1953, in Auburn. She died on June 5, 1994.

He was a member of the Garrett Eagles No. 1357 and Angola Loyal Order of the Moose No. 1568. He was a volunteer on the Salem Center Fire Department.

Surviving are two sons, Richard Garman Jr. of Pleasant Lake and Eric Garman of South Milford; a daughter, Cindy Deetz of Pleasant Lake; three sisters, Barb Lieninger of Fort Wayne, and Beth Menshy and Betty Bohen, both of Cedarville; 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Johnson Funeral Home, Hudson, with the Rev. James Wolheter officiating.

Calling is Friday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.

Burial will be in Prince of Peace Cemetery.

Memorials are to the Salem Center Fire Department.

Condolences can be sent to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

He was preceded in death by a son, Mark, in 1983, and a daughter, Susan, in 1964.

Robert Ramsbey

WALL LAKE — Robert L. Ramsbey, 85, died Tuesday, April 15, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Angola.

Mr. Ramsbey was born Oct. 21, 1917, in Mishawaka, to Harry and Celia (Hursey) Ramsbey. He married Mildred Brubaker on Oct. 26, 1940, in South Bend. She survives.

He retired from Bendix in South Bend in 1972.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Susan and Daniel Dunn and Marcia and Robert Freidline, all of South Bend; two sons and daughters-in-law, William and Mary Ramsbey of South Carolina and James and Donna Ramsbey of Evansville; a sister, Mary Ellen Shively of St. Elmo, Ill.; a brother, Harry Ramsbey of South Bend; 10 grandchildren, four stepgrandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

There will be no services or visitation. A memorial service will be held in South Bend at a later date.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Arrangements were by Carney-Frost Funeral Home, Howe.

Doris Alter

ANGOLA — Doris I. Alter, 87, died Tuesday, April 15, 2003, at Lakeland Nursing Center, Angola.

Mrs. Alter was born March 21, 1916, in Fort Wayne, to Alva G. and Hazel (Harp) Groom. Her husband, Jerome M. Alter, died in 1965.

She was employed as a tax clerk at North American. She retired in 1970.

Surviving are two daughters, Judy David of Angola and Jan Landrum of Auburn; two sons, Eugene Alter of Fort Wayne and James Alter of Hudson; 14 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

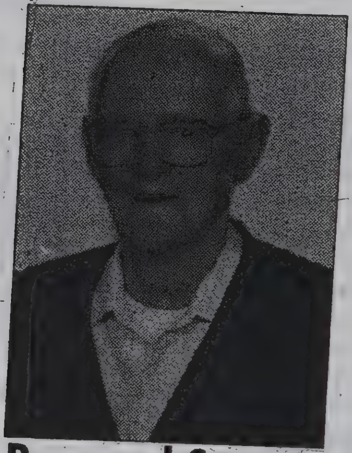
She was preceded in death by a sister.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Hockemeyer and Miller Funeral Home, Fort Wayne, with Pastor David Rex officiating. Calling is Friday from 3 to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9:30 to 10 a.m.

Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Memorials are to Lakeland Nursing Center.

ALBION NEW ERA
APRIL 16 2003



Raymond Stump

ALBION — Raymond Stump, 91, a resident of Noble Township, Noble County, died at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, April 10, 2003, in the Miller's Merry Manor, Columbia City.

He was born on November 11, 1911, in Washington Township, Noble County, a son of George and Saloma Elizabeth Stroh Stump. He graduated as the valedictorian of the Wolf Lake High School Class of 1929. After completing high school, he attended Purdue University.

On March 1, 1936, he was united in marriage to Mary Kathryn Mahnesmith and they made their home on a farm near Wolf Lake for many years. Mrs. Stump died November 16, 2002.

In addition to farming, Mr. Stump was employed at the Dana Weatherhead Company in the maintenance department for more than twenty five years.

He was a member of the Wolf Lake Baptist Church, served on the Noble Township Advisory Board and worked with the Noble County 4-H Clubs for many years.

The surviving relatives include a daughter, Sue A. (Lawrence) Emerson, Rome City; five sons, Kenneth R. (Nancy K.) Stump, Ligonier, Ned H. (Nancy J.) Stump, LaGrange, Thomas G. (Mary Anna) Stump, Avilla, Daniel K. (Mendy) Stump and Kevin W. (Kim) Stump both of Albion; twenty-three grandchildren and twenty-four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Inez Betty Ott, three brothers, Irving Jay, Harley Stroh Stump and Georges Himes.

The funeral service was held Monday, April 14, 2003, at the Wolf Lake Baptist Church with the Rev. Dan Carlson, church pastor, officiating. The burial was in the Thorn Cemetery at Ormas.

Memorials may be made to the Wolf Lake Baptist Church or the Gideon's.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 18
Kendallville, Indiana

Truman Yoder

HOWE — Truman Jay Yoder, 81, died at 12:15 a.m. Wednesday, April 16, 2003, from pneumonia and emphysema.

He was born in Shipshewana Sept. 22, 1921, to Samuel and Nancy (Wierich) Yoder.

He married Marcelene Lucille Engle Dec. 18, 1948, in LaGrange. She died Jan. 10, 1996.

Surviving are three sons, James and Ronald of Sturgis, and Jack of Auburn; two daughters, Jody Shotzman of Howe and Joan Yoder of LaGrange; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two brothers, William Yoder of Burr Oak, Mich., and Harley Yoder of Dunlap; and a sister and brother-in-law, Goldie and Jim Nuet of Elkhart.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Oscar and Raymond, and a sister, Edna Boling.

Memorial services will be Saturday at noon at Whole Life Christian Fellowship Church, 1420 E. Chicago Road, Sturgis.

Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe is in charge of arrangements.

Rocky Schlosser

BRYAN, Ohio — Rocky E. Schlosser, 46, died Wednesday, April 6, 2003, in his Bryan home.

An avid NASCAR fan, he was born May 12, 1956, in Bryan, to Elvin and LoAnn (Zigler) Schlosser. On Jan. 2, 1998, he married Linda Stewart, and she survives.

Also surviving are his mother; a son, Jason Schlosser of Decatur; a daughter and son-in-law, Melissa and Charlie Rowlison of Stroh; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Terry and Brenda Schlosser of Edon, Ohio, and Tracy and Chris Schlosser of Pioneer, Ohio; a sister and brother-in-law, Melody and Paul Hoover of Montpelier, Ohio; and seven grandchildren.

His father, Elvin "Lucky" Schlosser and a half sister, Nancy Hayden, preceded him in death.

Services will be Saturday at 3 p.m. at Rice-Burr Funeral Home in Bryan, with calling two hours prior to services. Burial will be in Floral Grove Cemetery, Pioneer.

Memorials are to an organization of the donor's choice.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ross Bair** were held Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Stan Kessler officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Shane Miller, Steve Bair, Brian Bair, Pat Reardon, Frank Pennington and Rick Freed.

Albert Smith

WOLCOTTVILLE — Albert Charles "Cork" Smith, 67, died Thursday, April 17, 2003, at 6:50 a.m. at his home on Adams Lake.

A native of Garrett, he moved to Wolcottville 13 years ago.

Mr. Smith was a salesman for J.O. Mory Co. before retiring in 1998. He was a member of the Garrett Eagles and the Kendallville Sons of the American Legion.

He was born Jan. 5, 1936, in Garrett to Curtis E. and Geraldine J. (Johnston) Smith.

He married Marcia E. Lothamer on April 7, 1956, in Garrett. She survives.

Also surviving with his wife are three daughters, Cindy Smith of Garrett, Patricia Gourneau of Belcourt, N.D., and Angela Hunter of Cincinnati, Ohio; one son, Dennis Smith of Garrett; one brother, Jon Smith of Port Charlotte, Fla.; one sister, Betty Dunn of Auburn; nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Bill and Dave Smith.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with Father Charles Mullen officiating. Burial will be in Cedar Creek Cemetery near Garrett.

Calling is Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9-11 a.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Garrett Boys Baseball.

Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Robert Marshall

CROMWELL — Robert L. Marshall, 69, died at 12:47 a.m. Tuesday, April 17, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne where he had been a patient since Monday.

Mr. Marshall

He was a lifelong area resident. He had been a truck driver for SuperValu for 28 years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1954 to 1956. He was a member of American Legion Post 246 in Albion, Teamsters Local 441 and the Noble County Gas & Steam Association. He enjoyed restoring antique John Deere tractors, going to tractor pulls and draft horse pulls, hunting, fishing and mushroom hunting.

He was born in LaGrange County June 18, 1933, to Harry and Mayrietta (Browand) Marshall.

He married Margaret A. Kimmel Nov. 26, 1953, in Albion. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Linda Marshall of Ligonier; a daughter and son-in-law, Teresa and Dennis Frisch of New Carlisle, Ohio; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Harry W. and Pat Marshall of Kendallville and Lloyd and Virginia Marshall of Kimmell; two sisters, Roberta Kuhn of Albion and Helen Trittipo of Texas; two grandchildren, Nick and Chris Frisch; and three stepgrandchildren, Daniel and Rachel Sprague and Katie Moreno; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, George and Harold Marshall.

Services will be Tuesday at 1 p.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, with Mr. Marshall's daughter, Teresa Frisch, officiating. Burial with military rites will be at Sparta Cemetery.

Calling will be Monday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Marjorie Loew

LAGRANGE — Marjorie M. Loew, 75, who moved from LaGrange to Hobe Sound, Fla., in 1963, died Tuesday, April 15, 2003, at Martin Memorial Hospital in Stuart, Fla.

She was born in LaGrange April 1, 1928, to Lester L. and Pauline (Kerns) Betts.

Her husbands, Duane Hess Sr. and Clare Loew, preceded her in death.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Ronald and Daphne Hess and Larry Hess, all of Hobe Sound; one stepdaughter, Eileen Turner of Burnips, Mich.; three stepsons, Clyde Loew of Grand Rapids, and Gale Loew and Wendell Loew, both of Byron Center, Mich.; a sister, Patricia L. Miller of LaGrange; three brothers, Dave Betts of Hernando, Fla., James Betts of Wolcottville and John Betts of LaGrange; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren and several stepgrandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by a son, Duane Hess Jr.; and a brother, Everett Betts.

Services will be Monday at 2 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Brian VanOsdol officiating. Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be two hours before services at the funeral home.

Richard Spencer

KENDALLVILLE — Richard C. Spencer, 77, died Tuesday, April 15, 2003, at Alterra Care Sterling House Assisted Living in Oviedo, Fla.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, retiring as a machinist mate first class jet mechanic after 19 years of service, from 1944 to 1964.

He was born in Fremont, Iowa, Dec. 25, 1925, to Hugh and Ethel (Cannon) Spencer.

He married Patricia W. Fox Nov. 4, 1959, in Kalamazoo, Mich. She died June 26, 2001.

Surviving are his friend, Lisa Hedges of Geneva, Fla.; a brother and sister-in-law, Donald and Shirley Spencer of Kalamazoo; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Beverly and Chuck Hayward of Zephyrhills, Fla., and Phyllis and Bob Hatten of Haines City, Fla.; and a brother-in-law and his wife, Jean and Jean Fox of Kendallville.

He was also preceded in death by a brother, James.

Services will be Monday at 1 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery, Brimfield.

Calling will be two hours before services at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Franklin Fulford

WAWAKA — Franklin "Frank" E. Fulford, 69, died at 2:47 a.m. Thursday, April 17, 2003, at Rosewood Terrace Nursing Home, Elkhart, where he had been a resident for several years.

He was a lifelong area resident and had been employed as a builder of steel structures. He enjoyed deer hunting and fishing.

He was born in Noble County Aug. 2, 1933, to Solomon and Harol Clarice (Nichols) Fulford.

Surviving are two brothers and sisters-in-law, Harold and Nancy Fulford of Wawaka and James and Mary Lou Fulford of Elkhart; a sister and brother-in-law, Virginia and Claude Snyder of Clearmont, Fla.; a nephew, Davey Fulford; and two nieces, Rosemary Fitzke and Debbie Reckard.

Graveside services will be Monday at 10:30 a.m. at Cosperville Cemetery, with Larry Baker officiating. There is no calling.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

Elizabeth Wilcox

ROME CITY — Elizabeth A. Wilcox, 76, formerly of rural Rome City, died Friday, April 4, 2003, in Mesa, Ariz.

She was an elementary school teacher for 31 years, spending the last 24 years at Albion before retiring in 1980.

Surviving are a son, John Wilcox of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Mary Beth Jones of Mesa; four grandchildren; two sisters; and a brother.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Wilcox, and by a brother.

A memorial service will be Saturday, April 26, at 3:30 p.m. at Our Hope Lutheran Church, 1826 Trinity Drive, Huntertown.

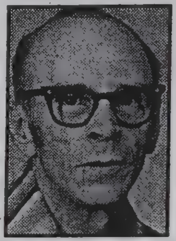
Calling will be from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Easter Seals ARC of Northeastern Indiana.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 19
Kendallville, Indiana

Harry Johnson

COLUMBIA CITY — Harry G. Johnson, 79, a resident of Columbia City and formerly of Blue Lake near Churubusco, died at 8:03 p.m. Thursday, April 17, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Columbia City. He had been declining in health for some time and entered the nursing home a month ago.


Mr. Johnson

Mr. Johnson was formerly employed at Wayne Pump in Fort Wayne for several years, and had retired as a fork lift operator at Dana Weatherhead Division in Columbia City in 1986.

As a young man, he served with the U.S. Army's 569th Bomb Squadron in Normandy, Northern France, the Rhineland, Central Europe and the Ardennes during World War II.

Always proud of serving his country, he was a member of the Gilbert Davis American Legion Post 157 in Churubusco and the Churubusco Verterans of Foreign Wars Turtle Post 3846. In his leisure time he enjoyed mushroom hunting.

He was born in Allen County on Sept. 1, 1923, to George W. and Lucy Jane (Martin) Johnson. They preceded him in death.

On April 30, 1948, he was married to Gloria L. Boggs. The couple spent most of their married life at their residence on Blue Lake, until moving to Columbia City in 1982. She preceded him in death on Dec. 4, 1987.

Surviving relatives include two daughters and a son-in-law, Toni and Loren Winebrenner of rural Albion and Paula Stephens of Dover, Ark.; a son, George "Joe" Johnson of Kendallville; a sister, Evelyn Kitzmiller of Ligonier; two grandchildren, Justin Winebrenner of rural Albion and Emily Stover of Rogers, Ark.; two great-grandchildren, Jordan Winebrenner and Jocelyn Winebrenner, both of rural Albion; and his dear friend and companion, Evelyn Etchyson of Columbia City.

He was also preceded in death by two brothers, Martin Johnson and Leslie Wayne Johnson; and a stepsister Marie Stevens.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco with the Rev. Curtiss Johnson officiating.

Calling will be Sunday from 4 to 8 p.m. and one hour before the service.

Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco, with military rites by the U.S. Army military honor guard.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health and Hospice, Columbia City.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Gertrude Hellwig

KENDALLVILLE — Gertrude Hellwig, 93, died Friday, April 18, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home in Kendallville.

Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville.

Anthony Schreiber

JUNCTION CITY, Kan. — Anthony Joseph Schreiber, 1 day old, died Wednesday, April 16, 2003, at Stormont-Vail Medical Center in Topeka, Kan.

He was born April 15, 2003, in Fort Riley, Kan., to Cory A. and Allyson (Zurowski) Schreiber of Junction City, Kan. They survive.

Also surviving are one sister, Harlie Renee Schreiber; one brother, Cory Allen Schreiber Jr.; five grandparents, Tom and Linda Hines of Wawaka, Al and Joyce Schreiber of Shipshewana, and Stan Zurowski of Montreal, Quebec, Canada; 11 great-grandparents, Walton and Alice Funk of LaGrange, George and Rita Schreiber of Sturgis, Mich., Richard and Carol Speece of Centreville, Mich., Ed and Joyce Reid of Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, Sophie Zurowski of Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and Ted and Yvonne Zurowski of Montreal, Quebec, Canada; and one great-great-grandmother, Gertrude Olds of Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

A graveside service will be held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at the Greenwood Cemetery in LaGrange with the Dr. Terry Timson officiating.

There will be no calling.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 20
Kendallville, Indiana

Lois Smurr

GARRETT — Lois J. Smurr, 70, died Saturday, April 19, 2003, at 12:40 a.m. in Miller's Merry Manor nursing home of Garrett.

Mrs. Smurr was born July 13, 1932, in Altona, to Henry Kock.

She married William H. Smurr on Feb. 9, 1957, in Garrett. He survives.

She lived in Garrett all her life. She was a nurse at McCray Hospital in Kendallville and was the director of nursing for 10 years. She was an I.V. nurse at Parkview Memorial Hospital in Fort Wayne before retiring in 1987.

She was a member of the Garrett American Legion and Garrett Eagles auxiliaries.

Also surviving are a son, Tom Smurr of Garrett; a stepson, Mike Smurr of Bowling Green, Ohio; two brothers, Mike Kock of North Manchester and Max Kock of Auburn; a sister, Nancy Zimmerman of Auburn; and three grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with the Rev. Richard A. Pickard officiating.

Calling is Monday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., and also one hour before services at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Memorials are to DeKalb County Cancer Society.

Norma Crain

HAMILTON — Norma C. Crain, 86, died late Friday evening, April 18, 2003, at Northern Lakes Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Angola.

Mrs. Crain was born May 26, 1916, in Geneva, N.Y., to Edith McVannon.

She married John L. Crain on Aug. 31, 1940. They were married 45 years. He preceded her in death.

Mrs. Crain had been a homemaker and had worked at Rieke Corp. in Auburn during World War II and Warner Gear in the 1950s. She was secretary, bookkeeper and part-owner of C & H Oil Co. and worked at the Hamilton House restaurant.

She was a member of the Hamilton Church of Christ, had served on the election board, and was a loving wife and mother and faithful friend.

Surviving are a son, Donald L. Crain of Winslow, Ariz.; a daughter, Martha D. Crain of Beverly Farms, Mass.; four grandchildren, Jenna Wilcox of Auburn, Mary Fee of Cromwell, Christy Benally of Winslow, and Kim Gill of Bryan, Ohio; 13 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Marcia L. Crain.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Oberlin-Ford Funeral Home, Hamilton, with Donald Crain and David Payne officiating.

Calling is from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday.

Burial will be in Hamilton Cemetery.

Memorials are to Navajo Trails Mission, P.O. Box 579, Winslow, AZ 86047.

Gertrude Hellwig

KENDALLVILLE — Gertrude Hellwig, 93, died Friday, April 18, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill.

Mrs. Hellwig was born in Fort Wayne on Aug. 15, 1909, to Charles and Amanda Ostermeier.

She married Eric Hellwig, who preceded her in death in May 1983.

She was a homemaker and a member of Trinity Church United Methodist. She was a member of the Lydia Circle at the church, the Eastern Star in Fort Wayne and the National Rifle Association.

Surviving are a son, Paul Hellwig of Kendallville; and a grandson, Joseph Hellwig of Kendallville.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Carl and Clifford Ostermeier.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville.

Calling will be Monday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery, Kendallville.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 20
Kendallville, Indiana

Vickie Kilgore

CHURUBUSCO — Vickie Kilgore, 49, died Saturday, April 19, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Kilgore was born Dec. 21, 1953, in Columbia City, to Frank and Roberta (Melching) Williamson.

Mrs. Kilgore

She married Hugh E. Kilgore on Nov. 20, 1992, in Clintwood. Va., and he survives.

She was a Columbia City High School graduate and attended Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne. She was employed at Eaton Clutch in Auburn for 10 years.

She lived in rural Noble County, near Churubusco, and was a member of Bethel Christian Baptist Church near Kendallville.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Amy and Matthew Boggs of Churubusco and Dawn and Michael Roberts II of Fort Wayne; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Jeremy and Trisha Kilgore and Charles Kilgore, all of Columbia City; three brothers and two sisters-in-law, James and Christine Williamson of Ossian, Danny and Jackie Williamson and Michael Williamson, all of Columbia City; four sisters and brothers-in-law, Pamela and Paul Dustin of Columbia City, Teresa and Mike Howard of Pierceton, Heidi and Ross Elias of Goshen and Christine and Scott Fladhammer of Fort Wayne; and seven grandchildren, Mitchell, Rebekah and David Boggs, Hayden and Jarrett Kilgore and Michael III and Alexis Roberts.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Angela Victoria, in September 1974, and a brother, Ronnie Williamson, in 1979.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Bethel Christian Baptist Church, west of Kendallville at U.S. 6 and S.R. 9 North. Pastors Jamie Owens and Shawn Shepherd will officiate.

Calling will be at the church from 4 to 7 p.m. Monday.

Burial will be in Orange Cemetery near Rome City.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Memorials are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana, Fort Wayne.

Amy Kessler

AUBURN — Amy M. Kessler, 30, died at her home on Friday, April 18, 2003.

Miss Kessler was born in Auburn on Feb. 9, 1973.

Surviving are her mother, Janice Paulen of Auburn; her father, Donald Kessler of Kendallville; her stepmother, Annie Kessler of Kendallville; two stepbrothers, Brian Rottger of Kendallville and Kevin Rottger of Wabash; a stepsister, Christina Rottger of Kendallville; and a devoted friend and caregiver, Lynn Carmer of Auburn.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Roselawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Calling is from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home, Auburn.

Memorials are to the humane shelter.

Nursing educator left legacy to Auburn

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

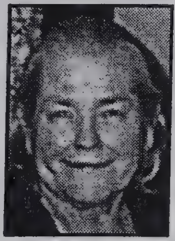
AUBURN — "She was a first-class lady and a first-class citizen."

Those words were used by Roger Wertenberger, longtime president of Peoples Federal Savings Bank, to describe Jane Niles, 79, of Auburn, who died April 6, 2003.

Miss Niles was a retired nursing educator whose philanthropy was much appreciated by the community. She gave $50,000 to Eckhart Public Library to pay for the construction of the library building's portico. She also donated funds for the preservation of the arches at the Heimach Center.

Wertenberger said his mother and Miss Niles' mother were close friends. After the death of Miss Niles' mother, she made it a point to visit Mrs. Wertenberger every Sunday.

"She would walk over every Sunday afternoon and visit for three hours and then walk home," Wertenberger said. Miss Niles would not bring her small, white dog, Pepperoni, who was her constant companion, because Mrs. Wertenberger had a cat.


Miss Niles

Miss Niles and Pepperoni especially enjoyed the small park at the library, and it was the library that Miss Niles chose to establish a permanent memory for her parents, Frederick L. and Wanda Marshall Niles.

"I will never forget the first day I met Jane," remembered Janelle Graber, Eckhart Library's director. Graber recalled a very busy day when a lady came in, asked to see the librarian and waited patiently for their meeting.

"She told me she was interested in making a donation to the library, and wanted to know if I would be receptive to a gift of $50,000," Graber said. "I nearly fainted!"

It came to pass that the money was used to construct the portico at the building's main west entrance.

"It was a wonderful gift and it came at a very critical time," Graber said. "I had never met her previously, and it was certainly a magical moment when I did. I can't describe the feeling."

In an interview at the time the gift was announced, Miss Niles said she wanted to do something in her parents' name that would have some permanence.

She was a native of Auburn, and after graduation from Indiana University earned a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University, where she taught. She also taught at the University of Cincinnati, the University of Illinois, Indiana University and Purdue University.

Though she never married, Miss Niles is survived by "many friends in the community," her obituary noted. And by giving permanence to the memory of her parents, she also earned a permanence of her own.

Strong faith carried man through life

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

HILLSDALE, Mich. — On this Easter Sunday 2003 it is appropriate to pay tribute to Douglas Bowman, 32, who died April 1. His life and his battle with cancer spoke eloquently of his love for the Lord and his desire that "... Christ be exalted in (his) body, whether by life or by death."

While in Kendallville, Mr. Bowman and his family attended the Kendallville Church of Christ and were close to the Brown family, including June, Anita and LuReign.

Anita Brown, Mr. Bowman's former Sunday school teacher, said he was always very curious, full of life and a real people person — genuinely interested in people. "I can't say enough about him. He was just a great kid," she said.

While still at East Noble High School, he was a bold witness to his faith, even participating in abortion protests with Noble County Right to Life.

This young man from Indiana had to go to Russia on a missions project to meet a Michigan girl named Monica — the girl he would later marry. Doug and Monica eventually had four children, Peter, Paul, Jennifer and Jeremy.

"She's just amazing," said LuReign Brown, of Mr. Bowman's young widow.

"She is every bit the person of faith that Doug was," added June Brown.

When Mr. Bowman was still teaching in Reading, Mich., he experienced his first bout with cancer. His long list of e-mail friends learned about his progress. Just one portion of his messages reveals the great love he inspired:

"I did not have disability insurance, but the administration, community, students, friends, family, and strangers came through for us ... The local Catholic church and staff from my high school in Kendallville surprised our children with gifts at Christmas — something we had ruled out in October or November.

"My church built us a bathroom downstairs so I wouldn't have to tackle the stairs after chemo ... We have certainly been blessed beyond anything we could have imagined, and we hope you have all been blessed as you have helped us as well."

After working with Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship's campus ministry at Hillsdale College, he discovered more lumps. This time it was fast-acting. He underwent more treatments, including a bone marrow transplant, in a final attempt to save his life, but instead, God called him home.

In one of his last messages he said, "I will always remember how I first felt hearing I had cancer, the surgeries, chemo, resulting sickness, being bald, the kindness of the many, many people we know, and the truths we have learned about the nature of God."

Now he knows the rest of the story, "... and to die is gain."

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL -20
Kendallville, Indiana

10 siblings mourn passing of ‘terrific brother’

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ASHLEY — Eleven children were born to Wayne E. and Lilly May (Feeney) Klink, who lived in Salem Center.

But now, only 10 remain. One of those children, Charles, died Sunday, April 13, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Angola.

“He’s the first one of us to go, which makes it so hard,” said Mr. Klink’s brother, Richard, choking back tears. “We were all very close, and we know we’re all going to go some time, but it’s still so hard.”

Richard is nine years younger than his brother.

“He was a good one,” Richard said. “A lot of times, after Mom and Dad died, if you had a bad day you’d go talk to Chuck.”

Mr. Klink was born Feb. 18, 1932, in Salem Center. He had been married to his wife of 49 years, Evalene Davis, since Feb. 13, 1954. The couple wed in Reno, Nev. Evalene survives.

Mr. Klink was a retired Steuben County farmer. He was a U.S. Navy veteran and served in the Korean Conflict. He was a member of Orland American Legion Post No. 423.

Mr. Klink

Mr. Klink’s younger sister, Linda Buss, said patriotism was very important to her brother.

“We had an ice cream social over Memorial Day a couple of years ago,” she remembered, tears making her voice shaky. “He called me before it, and he said, ‘Now Linda, I want you to get a program together so we can teach the younger kids in the family what it means to be an American.’ He said, ‘I want them to know what freedom is and how they got it.’”

Linda did as her brother asked, and the entire family said the Pledge of Allegiance and sang “God Bless America” together.

“It was so touching, and he got very emotional,” she said. “That really meant a lot to him.”

Linda said family gatherings were always gala events for Mr. Klink and his siblings, and that past get-togethers have provided the close-knit group with some of their fondest memories of their brother.

“We don’t just eat and go home, we entertain,” she said, chuckling through tears. “We always have programs and skits. People probably think we’re nuts.”

Another of Mr. Klink’s younger sisters, Mary Rhinehart, also said family get-togethers were times of great emotion.

“We would always hang onto hands and say The Lord’s Prayer,” she said.

Linda said she and her sisters “spoiled” all their brothers, and Chuck was no exception.

“He’d come into the house and say, ‘Which one of you girls is going to press my pants? Which one is going to wash my car? I have a date tonight,’” she said. “And we’d do it for him.”

Mr. Klink was a member of several local clubs and organizations. He was a board member of the Steuben County Rural Electric Membership Corp. for 21 years. He belonged to the Steuben County Antique Steam and Gas Engine Club.

“He was a real hard worker,” Richard said.

Mr. Klink enjoyed traveling, and had just returned from a trip out west before his unexpected death.

“He’d just got back from Arizona,” Richard said.

Mr. Klink’s survivors include five sons, Charles Jr., Bruce, Kurtis, Fred and Jeffrey, and a daughter, Vickie Little.

His other surviving siblings are brothers Michael, Wayne Jr., George and Kelley, and sisters, Mable Bowers, Ruth Ann Rowlison and Lillie Lou Till.

Mr. Klink and his wife are grandparents to 15 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mary said there will never be another like her brother.

“It’s been a very trying week, losing our brother,” she said between tears. “It’s just very overwhelming. He will be greatly missed.”

THE NEWS SUN

APRIL 21

Kendallville, Indiana

Ilean Hippensteel

ALBION — Ilean Mable Hippensteel, 85, died at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 19, 2003, at Parkview Whitley Hospital, Columbia City.

She had worked at Blue Bell Co. and later as an assembler at Lyall Electric. She attended Smith School and moved to Noble County after her marriage.

Mrs. Hippensteel

She was born in Thorncreek Township, Whitley County, Sept. 27, 1917, to Manuel and Alma (Gaerte) Smith.

She married Gale G. Hippensteel July 13, 1941, in Plymouth. He died Dec. 16, 1976.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Cindy Hippensteel of Albion; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Sandra and Darrell Snider of Zephyrhills, Fla., Deanna S. Briggs of Minneapolis, and Karen and Von Bridegam of Columbia City; 14 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Betty Krom of South Whitley.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by four sisters, Ethel Holt, Cherl Adkins, Dorothy Cleland and Edith Geyer; and three brothers, Franklin, Lewis and Otto Smith.

Services will be Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, with Pastor Lynn English of First Church of God officiating. Burial will be at Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.demoney-grimes.com.

S. Rex Elliott

WOLCOTTVILLE — S. Rex Elliott, 61, died at 10:45 p.m. Sunday, April 20, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Services are pending at Hutchins Funeral Home, Wolcottville.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana
APRIL 22

Everett Marsh

ALBION — Everett J. Marsh, 85, died at 10:10 p.m. Sunday, April 20, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

Before retiring in 1982, he was a crane operator for Forker Excavating in Albion 26 years. He was a veteran of World War II and a member of American Legion Post 246 in Albion. He was also a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Albion and the Albion Eagles.

He was born in Noble County Feb. 9, 1918, to Holly H. and Elsie W. (Long) Marsh.

He married Inez Cleland July 27, 1940, in Gary. She survives in Albion.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, John and Vicki Marsh and Jack and Carol Marsh, all of Albion; one daughter and son-in-law, Sally and Doug Fought of Topeka; 11 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and a sister, Hilda Engle of Howe.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Nancy Odier, who died Nov. 27, 1978; and a brother, Dale Marsh.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church in Albion, with the Rev. Dr. Daniel Barker officiating. Burial with military rites from American Legion Post 246 will be at Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to cancer research or the donor's choice.

Margaret Piver

LIGONIER — Margaret (Leahy) Piver, 82, of Kingston Circle, died Monday, April 21, 2003, in Ligonier.

She was born in Stonington, Conn., March 16, 1921, to James and Margaret (Mallon) Leahy.

She attended school in Connecticut.

She married Joseph H. Piver. He died in 1976.

Surviving are two daughters, Judith Chick Vitali and Peggy Piver Comstock, both of Old Lyme, Conn.; a brother, James Leahy of Lecanto, Fla.; and four grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Joseph R. Piver, and a grandson, Joseph Robert Comstock.

Private services. Burial will be in Stonington Cemetery.

There is no calling.

Mystic Funeral Home in Mystic, Conn., is in charge of arrangements.

Dessie Crooks

HUNTERTOWN — Dessie M. Crooks, 78, died at 6 p.m. Monday, April 21, 2003, at her home following an extended illness.

She was the widow of former Huntertown building contractor Donald L. Crooks, who died Aug. 19, 1987.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home of Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheets-funeralhome.com.

Burton Matteson

ALBION — Burton "Wray" Matteson, 84, died Monday, April 21, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home in Kendallville.

He lived in the area most of his life. He was a graduate of Albion-Jefferson High School. He had played in jazz bands as a young adult and, along with his father, owned the Noble County American newspaper and print shop. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during World War II.

He was born in Harlowton, Mont., Feb. 6, 1919, to Burt Ray and Claudia (White) Matteson.

He married Linda Kross in 1942. She survives in Albion.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Cheryl and Keith Leatherman of Albion; grandchildren, Ron and Faye Leatherman and Lori R. Leatherman, all of Albion; great-grandchildren, Taylor Courtney Leatherman and Brett Matteson Leatherman, both of Albion; a niece, Rosalee Duckworth; and three nephews, Burton "Skip" Duckworth, Richard Matteson and Robert Matteson.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Marion Matteson; a sister, Jessie Matteson Duckworth; and a nephew, Russell Larry Duckworth.

Services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion, with the Rev. Dr. Daniel Barker of Trinity United Methodist Church in Albion officiating. Burial with military rites by American Legion Post 246 will be at Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

Calling Thursday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial with military rites by American Legion Post 246 will be at Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

Memorials are to Central Noble Band Boosters.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 22
Kendallville, Indiana

S. Rex Elliott

ROME CITY — S. Rex Elliott, 62, died at 10:45 p.m. Sunday, April 20, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

He lived in the area for 38 years. He was retired from Noble County REMC. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, serving during the Vietnam War. He was a member of VFW Post 2749 in Kendallville and American Legion Post 381 in Rome City, and First Presbyterian Church in Albion.

He was born in Hartford City June 11, 1940, to Clayton and Jane (Sills) Elliott.

He married Sara Vaughan July 2, 1965, in Muncie. She survives in Rome City.

Also surviving are a son, Kirk Elliott of Elkhart; a daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Daniel Bentz of Virginia Beach, Va.; four grandchildren; one brother; and two sisters.

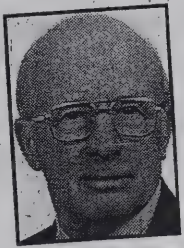
One brother preceded him in death.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville, with Dan Frick officiating.

Calling will be Wednesday from 3 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Orange Township EMS.

Norman Haarer


Mr. Haarer

ALBION — Norman E. Haarer, 80, died at 11:10 p.m. Saturday, April 19, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

He was a lifetime area resident, retired farmer and member of Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church where he was a Sunday school teacher for many years.

He was born in Shipshewana Jan. 8, 1923, to Frank and Grace (Beam) Haarer.

Surviving are two sisters and a brother-in-law, Mirriam Wellington of Goshen and Erma and John Eash of Burr Oak, Mich.; three brothers and two sisters-in-law, Harman and Phyllis Haarer of Coldwater, Mich., John and Janet Haarer of Hagerstown, Md., and Garlan Haarer of LaGrange.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church in Wolcottville, with the Rev. Richard Frederick officiating. Burial will be at Shore Cemetery in Shipshewana.

Calling will be one hour before services at the church.

Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 23
Kendallville, Indiana

Dessie Crooks

HUNTERTOWN — Dessie M. Crooks, 78, died Monday, April 21, 2003, at 6 p.m. at her home. She had been in declining health for the past year.

Mrs. Crooks

Mrs. Crooks was born April 4, 1925, in Branch County, Mich., to Ray and Delilah C. (Hulse) Brown. She spent her early years at Jimtown in Steuben County. As a young woman, she moved to Auburn with her parents and graduated from Auburn High School.

On Nov. 18, 1944, she married Donald L. Crooks in Auburn. They spent the early years of their marriage in Waterloo and moved to Huntertown in 1954. She and her husband owned D & D Construction in Huntertown. She retired in 1991.

Mrs. Crooks was a volunteer at the Allen County Children's Home for several years and was a member of the Huntertown United Methodist Church. She was talented in sketching, ink drawing and architectural drawing and also enjoyed doll making, quilting, sewing, woodworking and fishing.

She is survived by two daughters and a son-in-law, Connie Crooks and Linda and Mark Jackson, all of Huntertown; a son and daughter-in-law, David and Deborah Crooks of Huntertown; her twin sister and brother-in-law, Maxine and Billie Romine of Columbia City; her brother and sister-in-law, Edward and Eleanor Brown of Auburn; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband on Aug. 19, 1987, her parents, a brother, Herbert Brown, and four sisters, Edith Brown, Esther Boese, Pauline Waters and Helen Lytle.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. in Huntertown United Methodist Church, 16021 Lima Road, with pastors Sherri Long, Sue Socha and John DiMarzio officiating. Burial will be in Huntertown Cemetery.

Calling is Thursday from 2-8 p.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, Churubusco, and at the church Friday from 9-10 a.m.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health & Hospice.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct an error.

Margaret Piver

LIGONIER — Margaret (Leahy) Piver, 82, of Kingston Circle, died Monday, April 7, 2003, in Ligonier.

She was born in Stonington, Conn., March 16, 1921, to James and Margaret (Mallon) Leahy.

She attended school in Connecticut.

She married Joseph H. Piver. He died in 1976.

Surviving are two daughters, Judith Chick Vitali and Peggy Piver Comstock, both of Old Lyme, Conn.; a brother, James Leahy of Lecanto, Fla.; and four grandchildren.

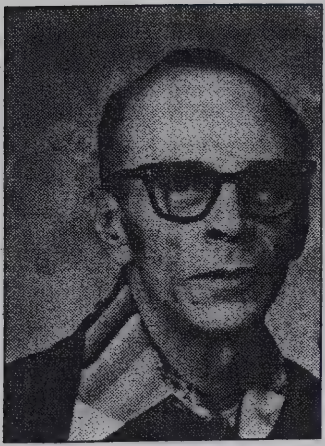
She was preceded in death by a son, Joseph R. Piver, and a grandson, Joseph Robert Comstock.

Private services. Burial will be in Stonington Cemetery.

There is no calling.

Mystic Funeral Home in Mystic, Conn., is in charge of arrangements in Connecticut and Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier is in charge of local arrangements.

ALBION NEW ERA
APRIL 23 2003



Harry Johnson

COLUMBIA CITY -- Harry G. Johnson, 79, a resident of Columbia City and formerly of Blue Lake near Churubusco, died at 8:03 p.m. Thursday, April 17, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in Columbia City. He had been in declining health for some time, and had entered the nursing home one month ago.

Mr. Johnson was born in Allen County on September 1, 1923, a son of George W. and Lucy Jane (Martin) Johnson, and spent his formative years in Huntertown. As a young man he served with the U. S. Army's 569th Bomb Squadron in Normandy, Northern France, the Rhineland, Central Europe and the Ardennes during World War II.

On April 30, 1948 he was married to Gloria L. Boggs. The couple spent most of their married life at their residence on Blue Lake, until moving to Columbia City in 1982. Mrs. Johnson preceded him in death on December 4, 1987.

He was formerly employed at Wayne Pump in Fort Wayne for several years, and had retired as a forklift operator at Dana Weatherhead Division in Columbia City in 1986.

He was a member of the Gilbert Davis American Legion Post 157 in Churubusco, and the Churubusco Veteran's of Foreign Wars Turtle Post 3846.

Surviving relatives include two daughters and a son-in-law, Toni and Loren Winebrenner of rural Albion, and Paula Stephens of Dover, Ark.; his son, George "Joe" Johnson of Kendallville; a sister, Evelyn Kitzmiller of Ligonier; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren of Albion; and his dear friend and companion, Evelyn Etchyson of Columbia City.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Martin Johnson and Leslie Wayne Johnson; and by a step-sister, Marie Stevens.

Funeral services were Monday at the Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco with Rev. Curtiss Johnson, officiating.

Interment was at the Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco, with military rites by the U. S. Army Military Honor Guard.

Memorials can be made to Parkview Home Health & Hospice, Columbia City. Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Burton "Wray" Matteson

Matteson, 84, died April 21, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill Nursing Home in Kendallville, IN.

He was born in Harlowton, Montana on February 6, 1919, to Burt Ray and Claudia (White) Matteson but spent most of his life in Albion.

He graduated from Jefferson High School in Albion. In 1942, he married Linda Kross. She survives in Albion.

Mr. Matteson played in jazz bands most of his young adult life. He later was co-owner, with his father, of the Noble County American Newspaper and Print Shop until he retired.

He was a World War II U.S. Army veteran and a member of American Legion Post #246 in Albion.

Surviving are his wife, Linda; daughter and son-in-law, Cheryl (Keith) Leatherman of Albion; three grandchildren, Ron and Faye Leatherman, and Lori R. Leatherman; two great-grandchildren, Taylor Courtney, and Brett Matteson Leatherman, all of Albion; one niece, Rosalee Duckworth; and three nephews, Burton (Skip) Duckworth, Richard and Robert Matteson.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Marion Matteson; sister, Jessie Matteson Duckworth; and nephew, Russell Larry Duckworth.

Visitation is Thursday, April 24, 2003, from 6 to 8:30 p.m.Services will be held Friday, April 25, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion, with the Dr. Rev. Daniel Barker of Trinity United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial, with graveside services from American Legion Post #246, will be in Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to Central Noble Band Boosters.

Edward Behm

ALBION – Edward Erwin Behm, 68, died at 4:45 p.m. Monday, April 14, 2003, at his daughter's Ligonier residence.

He was employed as a meat cutter for Marsh Super Market in Muncie and Warsaw. Since 1997, he has resided at Bear Lake, Noble county, and he formerly resided in Muncie and Wapakoneta,, Ohio, in the mid 1960s, and at Big Lake, Noble County, for 28 years. He was a volunteer for the Big Lake Fire Department and Toastmasters International. After graduating in 1952 from Cowan High School in Muncie, he attended Ball State University for one year. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves and was discharged in 1962.

He was born in Jackson, MI, July 6, 1934, to Edward and Thelma (Koontz) Behm.

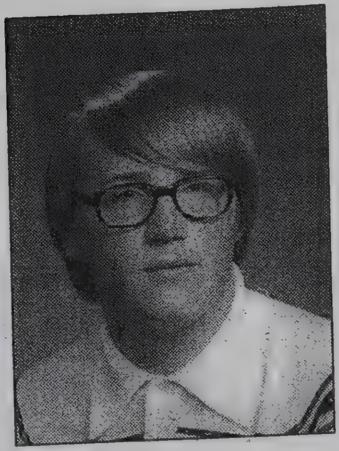
He married Carolyn Sue Farmer on July 17, 1955, in the Lutheran Church in Muncie. She survives in Albion.

Also surviving are two daughters and son-in-law, Cathy L. Smith of South Bend and Jeni and Steve Weigold of Ligonier; three sons and daughters-in-law, David A. and Polly Behm, Dan E. and Joanne Behm, and Dennis R. and Karen Behm, all of Columbia City; a brother and sister-in-law, Donald and Willa Behm of Muncie; a sister, Marti Ayres of Tucson, Ariz.; 12 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his parents, a stepmother, Mae Behm, and a brother, Fred Behm.

Services were held Friday, April 18, 2003, at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City, with Chaplain Ken Weaver from Parkview Hospice Home and Health Care officiating. Burial was in Thorn Cemetery, Ormas.

For those who wish, memorials are to Parkview Hospice of Fort Wayne or Parkinson's Foundation.



Lawrence "Larry" Sampson

FORT WAYNE – Lawrence Edward "Larry" Sampson, 43, a resident of Fort Wayne, died at 4 a.m., Wednesday, April 16, 2003, at his home. He had been disabled since an auto accident in August 1997.

He was born August 25, 1959, in Sturgis, Michigan a son of Allen Vern and Edna C. (Miller) Sampson. In 1959, his family moved to the Columbia City area. He graduated from Columbia City Joint High School.

He was the assistant manager at S & L Truck Stop for 10 years, manager at Bi-Rite from 1986 until 1993. He began his employment at Dana in Churubusco in 1990, participating in their bowling league, until an auto accident in August 1997 left him disabled.

On October 8, 1994, he was united in marriage to Susan K. (Davis) Wallace. They have always made their home in Fort Wayne.

He is survived by his wife, Susan; his mother, Edna Sampson of Columbia City; three sons, Danny K. Wallace Jr. of Fort Wayne, Rodney E. Wallace and Dax E. Wallace, both of Churubusco; 11 grandchildren; two brothers, Ricky A Sampson of Columbia City and Jerry W. Sampson of Albion; a sister, Linda D. Barkman of Hicksville, Ohio; and four half-brothers, Albert E. Smith of Columbia City, Larry Sampson, Keith Sampson and Robert Sampson, all of Chicago, Illinois.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Services were held Saturday, April 19, 2003, at Smith and Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City with Rev. Thomas Beers, pastor of Columbia City Church of the Nazarene, officiating. The burial was in the Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to the Parkview Hospice or St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Franklin Fulford

WAWAKA – Franklin "Frank" E. Fulford, 69, died at 2:47 a.m. Thursday, April 17, 2003, at Rosewood Terrace Nursing Home, Elkhart, where he had been a resident for several years.

He was a lifelong area resident and had been employed as a builder of steel structures. He enjoyed deer hunting and fishing.

He was born in Noble County August 2, 1933, to Solomon and Harol Clarice (Nichols) Fulford.

Surviving are two brothers and sisters-in-law, Harold and Nancy Fulford of Wawaka and James and Mary Lou Fulford of Elkhart; a sister and brother-in-law, Virginia and Claude Snyder of Clearmont, FL; a nephew, Davey Fulford; and two nieces, Rosemary Fitzke and Debbie Reckard.

Graveside services were held Monday, April 21, 2003, at Cosperville Cemetery, with Larry Baker officiating.

ALBION NEW ERA
APRIL 23 2003

Elizabeth Wilcox

ROME CITY – Elizabeth A. Wilcox, 76, formerly of rural Rome City, died Friday, April 4, 2003, in Mesa, AZ.

She was an elementary school teacher for 31 years, spending the last 24 years at Albion before retiring in 1980.

Surviving are a son, John Wilcox of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Mary Beth Jones of Mesa; four grandchildren; two sisters; and a brother.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Wilcox, and by a brother.

A memorial service will be Saturday, April 26, 2003, at 3:30 p.m. at Our Hope Lutheran Church, 1826 Trinity Drive, Huntertown.

Calling will be from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Easter Seals ARC of Northeastern Indiana.

Ilean Hippensteel

ALBION – Ilean Mable Hippensteel, age 85, formerly of 5165 W 450 S, Albion, died at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 19, 2003 at the Parkview Whitley Hospital, Columbia City. She was born on September 27, 1917, in Thorncreek Township, Whitley County, to Manuel and Alma (Gaerte) Smith.

She attended the Smith School and was reared in Thorncreek Township. After her marriage to Gale G. Hippensteel on July 13, 1941, in Plymouth, IN, she moved to Noble County and spent the remainder of her lifetime, until her health failed and she entered the nursing home. She first worked at the Blue Bell Company and later as an assembler for Lyall Electric.

She is survived by one son, Robert (Cindy) Hippensteel of Albion; three daughters, Mrs Darrell (Sandra) Snider of Zephyrhills FL, Deanna S. Briggs of Minneapolis, MN, and Mrs. Von (Karen) Bridegam of Columbia City. Fourteen grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Betty Krom of South Whitley also survive.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Gale G. Hippensteel, who died on December 16, 1976; four sisters; Ethel Holt, Cherl Adkins, Dorothy Cleland, and Edith Geyer; three brothers, Franklin, Lewis, and Otto Smith.

Services were held on Tuesday, April 22, 2003, at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City, with Pastor Lynn English, of the First Church of God officiating. Burial was in the Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

For those who wish, memorials may be given in Mrs. Hippensteel's memory to the donor's choice.

Robert Marshall

CROMWELL – Robert L. Marshall, 69. died at 12:47 a.m. Tuesday, April 17, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne, where he had been a patient since Monday.

He was a lifelong area resident. He had been a truck driver for SuperValu for 28 years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from 1954 to 1956. He was a member of American Legion Post 246 in Albion, Teamsters Local 441 and the Noble County Gas & Steam Association. He enjoyed restoring antique John Deere tractors, going to tractor pulls and draft horse pulls, hunting, fishing, and mushroom hunting.

He was born in LaGrange County June 18, 1933, to Harry and Mayrietta (Browland) Marshall.

he married Margaret A Kimmel November 26, 1953, in Albion, She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Linda Marshall of Ligonier; a daughter and son-in-law, Teresa and Dennis Frisch of New Carlisle, Ohio; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Harry W. and Pat Marshall of Kendallville and Lloyd and Virginia Marshall of Kimmell; two sisters, Roberta Kuhn of Albion and Helen Trittipo of Texas; two grandchildren, Nick and Chris Frisch; and three step-grandchildren, Daniel and Rachel Sprague and Katie Moreno; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, George and Harold Marshall.

Services were held Tuesday, April 22, 2003, at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, with Mr. Marshall's daughter, Teresa Frisch, officiating. Burial with military rites was at Sparta Cemetery.

ALBION NEW ERA
APRIL 23 2003

Everett J. Marsh

ALBION – Everett J. Marsh, 85, died Sunday, April 20, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

He was born in Noble County to Holly H. and Elsie W. (Long) Marsh on February 9, 1918. He lived in Noble County his entire lifetime.

On July 27, 1940, he married Inez (Cleland) Marsh in Gary, IN. She survives in Albion.

Mr. Marsh was employed as a crane operator for 26 years for Forker Excavating. He retired in 1982. He was a World War II Army veteran. He was a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church, American Legion Post 246, and the Eagles, all in Albion.

Surviving are his wife, Inez Marsh of Albion; two sons and daughters-in-law, John (Vicki) Marsh, and Jack (Carol) Marsh, all of Albion; daughter and son-in-law, Sally (Doug) Fought of Topeka, IN; 11 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and one sister, Hilda Engle of Howe, IN.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Nancy Odier; and brother Dale Marsh.

Services were held Thursday, April 24, 2003 at Trinity United Methodist Church, Albion, with Dr. Rev. Daniel Barker officiating. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion, with military graveside services from American Legion Post #246.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to Cancer Research or donor's choice.

Norman E. Haarer

ALBION – Norman E. Haarer, 80, died Saturday, April 19, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana, in Fort Wayne.

He was born January 8, 1923, to Frank and Grace (Beam) Haarer in Shipshewana, IN. He lived his lifetime in Noble County, working as a farmer.

Mr. Haarer was a member of the Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church, where he taught Sunday school for many years.

Surviving are two sisters, Miriam Wellington of Goshen, and Mrs. Erma (John) Eash of Burr Oak, MI; and three brothers, Harman (Phyllis) Haarer of Coldwater, MI, John (Janet) Haarer from Hagerstown, Maryland, and Garlan Haarer of LaGrange, IN.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Services were held at Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church in Wolcottville, Wednesday, April 23, 2003, with Rev. Richard Frederick officiating. Burial was in Shore Cemetery, Shipshewana.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to the church.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 24
Kendallville, Indiana

Freda Whetstone

MIDDLEBURY — Freda Whetstone, 87, died at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 23, 2003, at Elkhart General Hospital, after declining health the last two weeks.

Mrs. Whetstone

She was a homemaker and had worked at Abitibi for 10 years. She was a member of American Legion Auxiliary Post 210 and First United Methodist Church in Middlebury. She was an avid flower gardener.

She was born in Plain City, Ohio, Aug. 28, 1915, to Jonas and Sara (Miller) Yoder.

She married Amos H. Whetstone Sept. 28, 1939. He died April 1, 2003.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Rose Ann and Richard Seymore of Elkhart; a son and daughter-in-law, Don and Nancy Whetstone of Elkhart; two grandchildren; a sister, Mabel Yoder of Mount Vernon, Ohio; and four brothers, Paul, Franklin and David Yoder, all of Kalona, Iowa, and Ed Yoder of Arkansas.

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Carol Ward, in 1970; and a brother, Chris Yoder.

Private family graveside services will be held at Grace Lawn Cemetery, Middlebury, with Chaplain Donna Clabaugh of American Legion Auxiliary Post 210 officiating.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to Elkhart General Community Hospice.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home of Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Ora Hellman

HOWE — Ora E. Hellman, 88, formerly of Howe, died April 11, 2003, at Florida Hospital in Orlando after a brief illness.

She graduated from Warsaw High School in 1932 and from Holy Cross School of Nursing, South Bend, in 1936. She was a surgical nurse at LaGrange County Hospital and later was school nurse for Lakeland School Corp.

She traveled extensively and enjoyed reading and playing bridge. She was a member of Saint Margaret Mary Catholic Church, Winter Park, Fla.

She was born in Warsaw Sept. 26, 1914.

In 1974, she married Fred W. Hellman, a language instructor at Lakeland High School. He preceded her in death in 1991.

Also preceding her in death was her first husband, Robert Hartman.

Surviving are three daughters; one son; two stepsons; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Frurip-May Funeral Home of LaGrange is in charge of local arrangements.

Jerry Wellman

FORT WAYNE — Jerry L. Wellman, 89, died Wednesday, April 23, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He was an automotive painter with DeHaven Chevrolet for 10 years, retiring in 1981. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and member of American Legion Post 296. He was a member of First Baptist Church.

He was born in Celina, Ohio.

His wife, Mildred M. Wellman, preceded him in death April 18, 2003.

Surviving are two sons, Larry W. Wellman of Auburn and Ronald L. Wellman of Cromwell; eight grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Two brothers also preceded him in death.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens.

Calling will be Friday from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to First Baptist Church.

THE NEWS SUN

APRIL 25

Kendallville, Indiana

Paul Johnston

BEDFORD — Paul Johnston, 87, died Friday, Jan. 10, 2003, at Core Nursing Home in Bedford.

Mr. Johnston worked for General Telephone as a tester/dispatcher for 31 years, retiring in 1973. He was a member of the Auburn Church of Christ, a 54-year honor member of Ashley Masonic Lodge 614, and a 62-year member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He was a graduate of North Side High School in Fort Wayne.

He was born July 7, 1915, in Fort Wayne to Margaret (Hilderbrand) and Glenn W. Johnston.

His wife, Maxine (Covert) Johnston, preceded him in death.

Surviving are a daughter, Barbara Frye of Bloomington; a son, Kenneth Johnston of Syracuse; 10 grandchildren, John M. Frye of Bloomington, Kenneth P. Johnston of Westville, Cheryl L. Elkins of Syracuse, Corinne F. Tracy of Syracuse, Michael D. Johnston of Fort Wayne, Kimberly R. Johnston of Syracuse, Annette Haney of Ossian, Rick Jackson of Rome City, Vickie Jackson of Churubusco and Michelle Coates of Syracuse; a sister, Billie Turner of Chicago, three nephews, Robert C. Johnston of Washington state, Terry Johnston of Newburgh and Keith Johnston of East Peoria, Ill.; and 28 great-grandchildren.

He also was preceded in death by an infant son, a grandson, two brothers, Wayne and Gene Johnston, and two sisters, Jeanette and Dorothy Johnston.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. at Greenlawn Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Arrangements are by the Deremiah-Frye Mortuary Greene & Harrell Chapel, Bloomington, and Elzey Patterson Roadak Funeral Home, Fort Wayne.

Mary Smith

COLUMBIA CITY — Mary D. Smith, 79, formerly of Fort Wayne, died at 4:25 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, 2003, at her home in San Antonio, Texas. She had been in failing health the last three months.

Among surviving relatives are her husband, Jack; a daughter, Pamela Targgart of Fort Wayne; two sons and daughters-in-law, Douglas B. and Deborah Smith of San Antonio and Steven A. and Lorraine Smith of Tulsa, Okla.; a sister, Nedra R. McEowen of Columbia City; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Welcome Pankop

KENDALLVILLE — Welcome L. Pankop, 89, died at 6:25 a.m. Thursday, April 24, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home, where she had resided for three years.

Mrs. Pankop had suffered a stroke in 1998.

She was a homemaker. She was a member of the Rebecca Lodge in Kendallville.

She was born in Kendallville Jan. 5, 1914, to Milton and Sylvia (Itt) Heltzel. She married William Pankop Aug. 16, 1933, in Michigan. He died Sept. 23, 1988.

Surviving are a son, Arthur H. Pankop of Rome City; a stepson, Gerald Pankop of Wabash; three grandchildren, Douglas H. Pankop, Sherry Lang and Kelly Pankop; four stepgrandchildren, Gary and Craig Pankop, Rita Ann Griffith and Kay Day; seven great-grandchildren, Timothy D. Pankop, Benjamin Pankop, Tabatha A. Pankop, Jordyn M. Pankop, Douglas H. Pankop I, Casey D. Lang and Staci L. Lang; two sisters, Mary Spears of Farmland and Donnabelle Davis of Perrysburg, Ohio; and a brother, Foy Heltzel of Sturgis.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Carol Bell Pankop, and three brothers, Ralph, Dallas and George Heltzel.

Services will be Sunday at 3 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home. Burial will be at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Albion.

Calling will be Saturday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. and one hour before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Shepherd of the Hill nursing home, Kendallville.

Mary Smith

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Mary D. Smith, 79, a former Fort Wayne resident and more recently of San Antonio, died at 4:25 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, 2003, at her residence. She had been in failing health for three months.

Mrs. Smith

In Fort Wayne, on Oct. 13, 1923, she was born to John A. and Anna Byers Glander. On Oct. 12, 1943, she married Jack Smith in Spartanburg, S.C. He survives.

She spent her formative years in Fort Wayne, and graduated from South Side High School.

She spent most of her married life in Fort Wayne until moving to San Antonio in 1985.

Mrs. Smith was a homemaker, and worked as an executive assistant for the American Red Cross in Fort Wayne.

Surviving in addition to her husband are a daughter, Pamela Targgart of Fort Wayne; two sons and daughters-in-law, Douglas B. and Deborah Smith of San Antonio, and Steven A. and Lorraine Smith of Tulsa, Okla.; a sister, Nedra R. McEowen of Columbia City; eight grandchildren, Stephanie and Aaron Targgart, and Miles, Paige, Lianna, Jennifer, Charity and Trevor Smith; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and a son Kevin Michael Smith, who died in 1965.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Churubusco Church of the Nazarene in Churubusco with the Rev. Paul D. White officiating. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Calling will be one hour prior to the service.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **S. Rex Elliott** were held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home, with Dan Frick officiating.

Casketbearers were Ralph Bell, Dan Bentz, Terry Buesching, Bill Vaughan, Kirk Elliott and Chuck King.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 27
Kendallville, Indiana

Music was Burton Matteson's first love

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

ALBION — Burton "Wray" Matteson lived in the Albion area most of his life, and when not working at the family printing business, he played music — both before and after World War II.

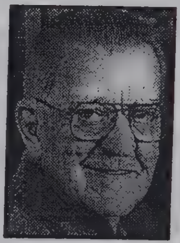
In an interview with the Albion New Era's Mike McCoy a year ago, Mr. Matteson described the life he really wanted — playing jazz and swing in clubs all over the country.

Heeding his father's advice to keep a paying job, Mr. Matteson tried to content himself by playing with small groups in the area. He said in the '30s, a person in Albion could put together a decent band in about 10 minutes.

More people played musical instruments back then, and like his grandson's wife, Faye Leatherman hinted, nowadays, most young people caught up in music are watching it on TV — not performing it themselves.

According to Leatherman, Mr. Matteson and his sweetheart, Linda Kross, put off their wedding date for fear he'd be called to military service. He was called up — twice — but his eyesight kept him out of the Army.

After the couple got married, the Army called again, and this time, they took him anyway. After hasty, rudimentary training, he served as a U.S. Army medic on a Navy hospital ship.


Mr.Matteson

He traveled to ports all over the world and saw a lot of suffering, but his heart kept hearing the music. While in port once, he found a horn, the term he used for any instrument that is blown through, according to Leatherman, and tried to form a little group.

But back at home, he made his living in the printing business. He and his father eventually sold the Noble County American to another Albion newspaperman and historian, Bob Gagen, and Mr. Matteso continued to work for Gage for awhile, according t Gagen's daughter, Sara Knopp.

Since Mr. Matteson's deat April 21 at the age of 84, th family has discovered ol journals in which he relate how a doctor prescribed clarinet to improve a lun condition he had at the time.

He also described the horrors of war and his helplessness, in light of his limite medical training, to treat the suffering soldiers around him.

These heartbreaking experiences, kept mostly to himself, helped mold the man who would become a part of "America's greatest generation."

Donald Kelly a winner in business, sports

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

AUBURN — More than a few Auburn businesmen have been mourning the loss of a close friend over the past week.

Donald E. Kelly died Monday, the day before his 71st birthday, in Naples, Fla. The former president of Rieke Corp. in Auburn, he had lived in Naples since his retirement in 1992.

"We were very close friends," said Donald Derrow, DDS, who pointed out that he and Mr. Kelly shared the same first and middle names, Donald Eugene.

"Not only that, but we both married women named Nancy," Derrow said. "He was best man at my wedding."

Along with Derrow and local banker Roger Wertenberger, Mr. Kelly played on the 1949 Auburn High School basketball team that went all the way to the Final Four in the state tournament. The team lost to Jasper, 53-49, and Jasper went on to win the state title.

Mr. Kelly

"He was a very good offensive basketball player," Derrow said of Mr. Kelly. "When he was hot, he was hot, with a good two-hand set shot. If he wasn't hot, coach would take him out, because he didn't like to play defense that well," Derrow recalled.

Wertenberger said Mr. Kelly "was very successful in whatever he made up his mind to do," whether in business or in sport. "His business skills were well documented (in his obituary) and so was his golfing," Wertenberger said. "I think he was probably one of the best golfers in the state, and would have been the best had he not lost in the championship (state amateur golf) to Fuzzy Zoeller the year before Fuzzy went pro."

Mr. Kelly had the honor of playing in the U.S. Amateur, Senior U.S. Amateur and British Amateur golf championships. Until about a year ago, when he developed health problems, he continued to play par golf.

Another close friend was Michael Haggarty, president of the former Auburn State Bank, who noted Mr. Kelly's community dedication.

"He did a lot for the community through his work with the foundations," Haggarty said. "He was a director at the bank from 1971 until his retirement, and he was excellent as a director."

Lynn Brooks, current president at Rieke Corp., said he worked for 15 years under Mr. Kelly's tutelage. "He was a very fair person and an excellent businessman," he said.

At Rieke, Mr. Kelly was honored six times with the President's Club Award in recognition of his contribution to the growth and success of parent companies TriMas Corp. and Masco Corp.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 27
Kendallville, Indiana

Roger Ratliff

KENDALLVILLE — Roger D. Ratliff, 31, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, in a traffic accident on U.S. 6 west of Corunna.

Mr. Ratliff

Mr. Ratliff served in the U.S. Army from 1990 until 1996, attaining the rank of sergeant.

He was employed at T.I. Automotive in Ashley and previously worked for the CSX Railroad. He was a pastor and member of Grace Christian Church in Kendallville and served as assistant pole vaulting coach at East Noble High School.

He was born May 13, 1971, in Willard, Ohio, to Bill and Avenelle (Collins) Ratliff. His mother preceded him in death.

He married Sara Nickles on Aug. 9, 1997, in Litchfield, Ohio. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Tyler and Gabriel, and a daughter, Grace, all of Kendallville; his father and stepmother, Bill and Debbie Ratliff of Willard, Ohio; a brother and sister-in-law, Terry and Shannon Ratliff of Ohio; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Melissa and Harold Howard of Ohio, Teresa and Steve Newsome of Dayton, Ohio, and Tammy Jones of Ohio; a grandmother, Iva Ratliff of Marion, Ohio; and many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Grace Christian Church. The Rev. Chris Mosley, the Rev. Nathan Mosley and Scott Mosley will officiate. Burial will follow in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling is at Grace Christian Church today from 4-8 p.m. and Monday after 4 p..m. at the church, with a service Monday at 7 p.m.

Memorials are to the family.

Hite Funeral Home of Kendallville is handling arrangements.

Condolences may be posted at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Johnette Billings

AUBURN — Johnette R. Billings, 59, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, in Lutheran Hospital at Fort Wayne.

She worked as a stockman for NIPSCO in Fort Wayne for 26 years, retiring this year. She also worked for three years at Taco Bell in Auburn. She was a member of the USWA union and attended the Church of Christ in Auburn.

She was born April 25, 1944, in Auburn.

Surviving are her mother, Violet R. Harter; a son, Tony Harter of Whitestown; a foster son, Bob Billings of Toledo, Ohio; a foster daughter, Betty Shuman of Garrett; four brothers, James Harter of Brownsburg, Richard Harter of Auburn, Michael Harter of Indianapolis and Charles Harter of Columbia City; two grandchildren, Jennifer and Rebecca Harter of Whitestown, and a foster grandchild, Travis Shuman of Garrett.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in McComb, Dilgard and Cline Funeral Home, 502 N. Main St., Auburn. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery of Auburn.

Calling is Tuesday from 5-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to charities for battered children.

Doris Huff

KENDALLVILLE — Doris L. Huff died Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital. Service arrangements are pending at Hite Funeral Home of Kendallville.

Lorenz Muntzinger

CONVOY, Ohio — Lorenz. R. Muntzinger, 92, died Friday, April 25, 2003, at 6:30 p.m. in VanCrest Health Care Center at Van Wert, Ohio.

A former resident of Convoy, Mr. Muntzinger had retired from Continental Can Co. (Greif Brothers). He was a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Convoy and was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army.

He was born Feb. 4, 1911, in Harrison Township of Van Wert County, Ohio, to William and Alwine (Stamm) Muntzinger.

Surviving is a sister, Erma (Howard) Lake of Kendallville.

He was preceded in death by two brothes, Clarence Jacob Muntzinger and Martin Muntzinger, and two sisters, Luella Frane and Trina Muntzinger (in infancy).

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday in Redeemer Lutheran Church of Convoy. The Rev. Mike Saylor, pastor of the church, will officiate. Burial will be in Redeemer Lutheran Cemetery.

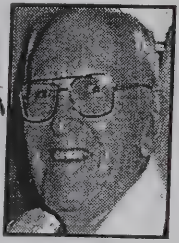
Calling is today from 2-5 p..m. at Cowan & Son Funeral Home, 303 E. Tully St., Convoy.

Memorials are to Redeemer Lutheran Church, 6727 S.R. 49, Convoy OH 45832.

Robert Keck

KENDALLVILLE — Robert H. Keck, 91, formerly of Auburn, died at 4:55 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home.

He was a machinist at General Electric in Fort Wayne for 44 years, retiring in 1973.


Mr. Keck

He was born in Noble County Jan. 19, 1912, to Henry W. and Emma (Hess) Keck.

He married Shirley Tompkins Sept. 1, 1935, in Avilla. She died Sept. 30, 1966. He then married Elsie Sweet Dec. 9, 1967, in Oshkosh, Wis. She died Sept. 30, 2001.

Surviving are three sons, Duane R. Keck of Murrells Inlet, S.C., Dwight E. Keck of Fort Wayne and Michael Sweet of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Barbara Gordon of Auburn; two sisters, Catherine Shellenberger of Payne, Ohio, and Geraldine Snell of St. George, Utah; 18 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn, with the Rev. Lloyd Bickel officiating. Burial will be at Lutheran Cemetery, Avilla.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, and one hour before services at the church.

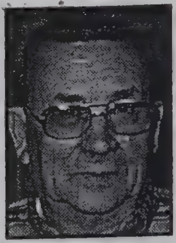
Memorials are to Bethesda in care of Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Alan Kimmell

KIMMELL — Alan Kimmell, 85, died at 4:15 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2003, at his home after a yearlong illness.

He was a farmer. He lived all his life on the same farm where he was born. He was a member of Ligonier Elks Lodge 451 and was treasurer of the Sparta Cemetery Association for many years.


Mr. Kimmell

He was born in Kimmell Aug. 19, 1917, to Claude and Hannah (Kiester) Kimmell.

He married Helen Spurgeon Oct. 16, 1941, in Ligonier. She survives.

Also surviving are three nephews and one niece.

His sister, Anna May Brown, preceded him in death in December 2002.

Graveside services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Sparta Cemetery, with the Rev. Jean Ness officiating.

Calling will be from 1 to 2 p.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier.

Memorials are to the Whitley County Division of Parkview Hospice.

Shirley Lower

WOLCOTTVILLE — Shirley A. Lower, 69, died Friday, April 25, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange.

She was a children's day care provider in Wolcottville. She lived most of her life in Wolcottville and was a member of the Rome City American Legion Auxiliary.

Mrs. Lower

She was born in Middletown, Ohio, May 12, 1933, to Douglas and Elda (Smallwood) Mehl.

She married Thomas M. Lower April 16, 1953, in Waukegan, Ill. He died June 18, 2002.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Paul Sabelhaus of Wolcottville; two sons and one daughter-in-law, Gregory and Bev Lower and Tony Lower, all of LaGrange; a sister, Lois Ritter of Ligonier; and three brothers, David and James Mehl, both of Ligonier, and Tom Mehl of Milford; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

One brother, Bill Mehl, preceded her in death.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Clarence Combs officiating.

Calling will be one hour before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the LaGrange County Cancer Society.

THE NEWS SUN
APRIL 28
Kendallville, Indiana

Doris Huff

KENDALLVILLE — Doris L. Huff, 79, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

She retired as a cook for Chronister's Central Drug Store and was a member of St. John Lutheran Church, both in Kendallville.

She was born in Antwerp, Ohio, July 11, 1923, to William and Iva (Laney) Douglas.

She married William F. Huff in November 1967 in Antwerp. He died July 15, 1989.

Surviving are a son, Kevin Mavis of Auburn; a daughter, Kathleen Mavis of Rapid City, S.D.; two stepdaughters, Millie Werker of Ligonier and Jean Replogle of Kendallville; a sister, Shirley Kreiger of Kendallville; two grandsons, Kyle Mavis of Auburn and Matthew Ballard of Bovey, Minn.; three granddaughters, Melanie Green of Rapid City, S.D., Janalyn Hoyez of Cook, Minn., and Danielle Pontoni of St. Francis, Minn.; 12 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were three brothers, Robert, Kenneth and William Douglas; and a sister, Beulah Miller.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Paul Griebel officiating. Burial will be at Avilla Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Naomi Higginbotham

FORT WAYNE — Naomi E. Higginbotham, 70, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Life Care Center of Fort Wayne.

She was a retired nurse, formerly employed by Parkview Hospital.

She was born in Wise County, Va., Sept. 1, 1932.

Surviving are her husband, Joe; three daughters, Virginia Lee Scribner of Buckeye, Ariz., Lynda Collins of New Haven, Nancy Silva of LaOtto; grandchildren, Greg, Stephanie, Susan, Samantha and Sandi; great-grandchildren, Jeffrey, Shaly, Lauren, Austin and Kamryn; and a brother, Sam Summers of Virginia.

She was preceded in death by a a son, Steven Higginbotham.

Services will be Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at C.M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home, 1327 N. Wells St. Burial will be at Lindenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 5 to 8 p.m.

Memorials are to the family.

Joan Fulkerson

ALBION — Joan C. Fulkerson, 58, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

She was a truck driver for Magnavox for 28 years and worked at International Wire Corp. in Kendallville for one year.

She was born in Fort Wayne Feb. 24, 1945, to Richard and Marcile Saylor.

Surviving are her husband, Ronald M. Fulkerson of Albion; a son, Richard R. Fulkerson of Albion; a daughter, Anna E. Fulkerson of Albion; a brother, Charles "Butch" Saylor of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Mary Harden of Butler and Cecilia "CB" Curry of Columbia City; and one granddaughter, Ashley Bolenbaugh of Indianapolis.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home. Burial will be at Lindenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Small Animal Hospital, Michigan State University in care of Dr. Flo.

Steve Curry

WATERLOO — Steve Curry, 58, died Sunday, April 27, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Mr. Curry was born Feb. 19, 1945, in Angola, to Harold and Pauline (Parcel) Curry. Both parents survive in Waterloo.

He was married to Denice "Moe" McNaughton, who also survives.

He was employed by Auburn Gear in Auburn. He was a U.S. Army veteran, and served during the Vietnam War.

Also surviving are five daughters and three sons-in-law, Luella Curry of Waterloo, Heather and Brian Ball and Melissa and David Pearson, all of Ashley; Lesli and Richard Vaughn of Hamilton and Jeri French of Glasgow, Ky.; a brother, Bruce Curry of Waterloo; a sister, Brenda Gehring of Yoder; and eight grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Beams Funeral Home, Fremont, with the Rev. Greg Rittenhouse officiating. Calling is today from 6-8 p.m.

Ruth Whetzel

KENDALLVILLE — Ruth E. Whetzel, 94, died Sunday, April 27, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

She was a secretary at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., for 39 years, retiring in 1974. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church and Women's Club, both in Ithaca. She moved to Kendallville in the summer of 1996.

She was born in Swan Township near Avilla on Dec. 12, 1908, to Samuel E. and Bertha V. (Good) Whetzel.

Surviving are a brother, Harry Whetzel of Kendallville; a sister, Amy Barker of Kendallville; a sister-in-law, Della Whetzel of Hudson; and eight nieces and nephews.

One brother, Russell J. Whetzel, preceded her in death.

Graveside services will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Lake View Cemetery in Kendallville.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Hite Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

APRIL 29

Kendallville, Indiana

Wilson Shoup

ANGOLA — Wilson E. Shoup, 88, died Monday, April 28, 2003, at Lakeland Nursing Center, Angola.

Mr. Shoup was born March 27, 1915, in Middlebury, to Merle and Mary (Hassan) Shoup. He married Blanche E. Stahlberg in 1944, and she preceded him in death in 1990.

He was a World War II veteran, serving in the U.S. Army. He was an attorney with the Angola law firm Shoup & Shoup, and served as Angola city attorney from 1956 to 2000.

He was a member of the Angola United Methodist Church.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, George Shoup and Kim and Deborah Shoup, all of Angola; a daughter, Virginia Holderness of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; a brother, Harold Shoup of Middlebury; and four grandchildren, Britt and Clayton Holderness and Sam and Anna Shoup.

He also was preceded in death by a sister, Maxine Kinkaid, and a brother, Everett Shoup.

Calling is Saturday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola. No services are planned, per Mr. Shoup's request.

Private burial services will be held in Gracelawn Cemetery, Middlebury.

Memorials are to the Steuben County Humane Society.

Services Held

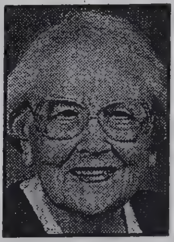
KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Welcome L. Pankop** were Sunday at 3 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. Evan Lash officiating. Burial was at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Albion.

Pallbearers were Doug Pankop, Foy Heltzel, Bob Heltzel, Ben Pankop, Michael Lang and Matt Steadham.

Honorary pallbearers were Don Heltzel, Lawrence Pankop, Paul Pankop, Mark Pankop, Hubert Pankop and Gerald Pankop.

Mary Martin

SYRACUSE — Mary H. Martin, 88, died at 5:51 p.m. Sunday, April 27, 2003, at her home after a lengthy illness.



Mrs. Martin

She was a Cromwell resident since 1939, and moved to Lake Wawasee in 1964. She was in real estate sales and had managed condominiums in the Lake Wawasee area for several years. She was a member of Cromwell United Methodist Church and Lydia Circle. She was a 1933 graduate of Nineveh High School and Indiana State Teachers College. She enjoyed flower gardening.

She was born in Johnson County Oct. 21, 1914, to Homer D. and Oma (Burgett) Hunt.

She married Oris W. "Lefty" Martin June 4, 1939, in Johnson County. He died March 3, 2003.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, David and Sharron Martin of North Webster; a brother, George B. Hunt of Franklin; a sister, Clara E. Warner of Greensburg; nine grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

One son, Thomas J. Martin, preceded her in death in May 1999.

Services will be Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Chris Dare officiating. Burial will be at Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Calling will be Wednesday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Cromwell United Methodist Church.

The following obituary is being reprinted to include additional information from the funeral home.

Robert Keck

KENDALLVILLE — Robert H. Keck, 91, formerly of Auburn, died at 4:55 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home.

He was a machinist at General Electric in Fort Wayne for 44 years, retiring in 1973.

He was born in Noble County Jan. 19, 1912, to Henry W. and Emma (Hess) Keck.

He married Shirley Tompkins Sept. 1, 1935, in Avilla. She died Sept. 30, 1966. He then married Elsie Sweet Dec. 9, 1967, in Oshkosh, Wis. She died Sept. 30, 2001.

Surviving are three sons, Duane R. Keck of Murrells Inlet, S.C., Dwight E. Keck of Fort Wayne and Michael Sweet of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Barbara Gordon of Auburn; two sisters, Catherine Shellenberger of Payne, Ohio, and Geraldine Snell of St. George, Utah; 18 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Floyd Keck.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn, with the Rev. Lloyd Bickel officiating. Burial will be at Lutheran Cemetery, Avilla.

Calling will be today from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Bethesda in care of Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Daniel Mast

LAGRANGE — Daniel O. Mast, 21, died Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at his home.

He was a framing contractor for Heritage Builders of LaGrange. He was a lifelong resident of LaGrange and a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He was born in LaGrange County June 3, 1981, to Ora A. and Wilma J. (Yoder) Mast.

He married Ada J. Troyer April 18, 2002. She survives.

Also surviving are his parents; grandparents, Andrew L. and Amanda Mast of Topeka and Joe W. Yoder of Dalton, Wis.; four sisters and three brothers-in-law, Ella and Enos Hilty of LaGrange, Elsie and Toby Troyer of LaGrange, Susan Mast of LaGrange, and Esther and David Beechy of Wisconsin; four brothers and two sisters-in-law, Andrew and Edna Sue Mast, John and Freda Mast, Melvin Mast and Harley Mast, all of LaGrange.

He was preceded in death by a grandmother, brother-in-law, and two nieces.

Services will be Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the family residence at 1735 N. C.R. 400W, LaGrange, with Bishop Edward Schmucker and home ministers officiating. Burial will be at Mast Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be Wednesday after noon and all day Thursday at the family home.

Janice Bange

PLANT CITY, Fla. — Janice Eileen Bange, 66, formerly of Kendallville, died Sunday, April 20, 2003, in the hospital in Plant City. She had undergone quadruple bypass surgery with a mechanical heart valve in 1997 and was on life support 17 times during the last six years.

She had worked at the Pentagon during her husband's service with the U.S. Army, then as a legal secretary in Indianapolis until the couple moved in Kendallville in 1970.

She was an inspector at Tokheim until the company moved in 1990. She did volunteer work with the Noble County AIDS Task-Force until the couple moved to Florida in 1994. She often sang with her husband's band, "Chapter 7." Her hobbies included the computer, NASCAR racing and shopping for her family.

She was born in Martinsville, Ind., in 1936 to Marion and Nadine Guynn.

She married Bill Bange in 1960 at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C., where Bill was a patient. They had first met at age 4 in Vacation Bible School. He survives in Florida.

Also surviving are a son, Vince Bange of Florida; two daughters, Dina Atkinson of Texas and Autumn Despotis of Florida; a granddaughter, Iliana Despotis of Florida; two sisters, Barbara Carque of Nevada and Julie Tannehill of Indiana; and a stepbrother, Buddy Dill of Ohio.

Condolences may be sent to Bill Bange, 807 1/2 S. Thomas St., Plant City, FL 33563 or e-mailed to Muggs606@aol.com.

THE NEW SUN
WEDNESDAY APRIL 30, 2003
KENDALLVILLE, IN

Ronald Peckhart

WATERLOO — Ronald W. Peckhart, 77, died Monday, April 28, 2003, at 1:40 p.m. in Parkview Noble Hospital at Kendallville.

Mr. Peckhart worked at Flint & Walling in Kendallville, retiring in 1990. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving in World War II. He attended New Hope Christian Center in Waterloo.

He was born July 22, 1925, in Auburn to Ora and Pearl (Jackson) Peckhart.

He married Dolores Voges in 1947 in Auburn. She survives.

Also surviving are son and daughter-in-law, William and Ginger Peckhart of Hamilton; two daughtes and a son-in-law, Dianna and William Monroe Stewart of Orland and Gloria Pifer of Bronson, Mich.; a sister, Vivian Sheperd of Kendallville; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Norman, and a sister, Velma Maybe.

Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. The Rev. Ralph Diehl will officiate. Burial will be in Fairfield Cemetery in rural Corunna.

Calling is Thursday from 4-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

The following obituary is being reprinted to add information provided by the funeral home.

Doris Huff

KENDALLVILLE — Doris L. Huff, 79, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

She retired as a cook for Chronister's Central Drug Store and was a member of St. John Lutheran Church, both in Kendallville.

She was born in Antwerp, Ohio, July 11, 1923, to William and Iva (Laney) Douglas.

She married William F. Huff in November 1967 in Antwerp. He died July 15, 1989.

Surviving are a son, Kevin Mavis of Auburn; a daughter, Kathleen Mavis of Rapid City, S.D.; two stepdaughters, Millie Werker of Ligonier and Jean Replogle of Kendallville; a sister, Shirley Kreiger of Kendallville; three grandsons, Kyle Mavis of Auburn, Matthew Ballard of Bovey, Minn., and Daniel Pontoni of St. Francis, Minn.; two granddaughters, Melanie Green of Rapid City, S.D., and Janalyn Hoyez of Cook, Minn.; 12 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren, Gavin Replogle of Kendallville, Andrea Werker of Virginia and Mary Werker of Ligonier; and two stepgreat-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were three brothers, Robert, Kenneth and William Douglas; and a sister, Beulah Miller.

Services were today at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Paul Griebel officiating. Burial was at Avilla Cemetery.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

James Roberts

SNEEDVILLE, Tenn. — James Harold Roberts, 57, died Monday, April 28, 2003, at his home.

Surviving are his wife, Mary Ramsey Roberts; two daughters and sons-in-law, Kim and Scott Foster of Auburn and Karen and Rick Jaquay of Orland; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Larry Roberts of Sneedville and Dwayne and Mary Roberts of Tazewell, Tenn.; nine grandchildren, Kandra, Jarrod, Breanna, Cora Lee and Matthew Roberts, Katie Adams, Linzee Jaquay and Scotty and Tyler Foster; two brothers, Lawrence of Morristown, Tenn., and Charles of Sneedville; and three sisters, Betty Bunch of Morristown and Brenda Belcher and Nancy Crumley, both of Sneedville.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ulas and Hazel Roberts, and a brother, Creed Roberts.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Mulberry Gap Baptist Church, where he was a member. The Rev. Seven Gibson and the Rev. Dennis Jones will officiate. Interment will be in the Roberts Family Cemetery.

Calling is tonight from 6-9 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the family.

McNeil Funeral Home in Sneedville is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEW SUN
WEDNESDAY APRIL 30, 2003
KENDALLVILLE, IN

Matthew Berryhill

HAMILTON — Matthew "Matt" Scott Berryhill, 35, died Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Berryhill had worked at Guardian Industries in Auburn.

He was born June 11, 1967, in Auburn to Raymond and Kay (Stoy) Berryhill. They survive in Corunna.

He married Angela "Angie" M. Cherin on March 11, 1995, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons, AJ and Reese Berryhill, both at home; two brothers and a sister-in-law, Alan and Sheila Berryhill of Butler and Kevin Berryhill of Corunna; and a sister and brother-in-law, Kim and Mark Bowen of Monroeville.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in Oberlin-Ford Funeral Home, 3985 E. Church St., Hamilton, with Al Black officiating. Burial will be in Fairfield Cemetery in rural Corunna.

Calling is Thursday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to a charity of the donor's choice.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Roger D. Ratliff** were held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Grace Christian Church, with the Rev. Chris Mosley, Scott Mosley and Nathan Mosley officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Darrel Nickles, Bobby Lylins, Jerry Robinson, LeRoy Miller, Chris Christianson, Tim Ryman, Glen Tamblin and Steve Burtock.

Hite Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Velma Adams

HAMILTON — Velma E. Adams, 83, died Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at 5:52 a.m. at DeKalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn.

She had worked as a clerk in the office at Main Auto Supply.

She was born March 11, 1920, in Fort Wayne to George and Elda (Colinger) Adams.

Surviving are a sister, Marilyn McNamara of Tavares, Fla., and a nephew, Tim McNamara of Pleasant Lake.

There will be no calling or services. H.E. Johnson and Son Funeral Home of Butler is in charge of arrangements.

ALBION NEW ERA
WEDNESDAY APRIL 30, 2003
ALBION, IN

Joan Fulkerson

ALBION – Joan C. Fulkerson, 58, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

She was a truck driver for Magnavox for 28 years and worked at International Wire Corp. in Kendallville for one year.

She was born in Fort Wayne February 24, 1945, to Richard and Marcile Saylor

Surviving are her husband, Ronald M. Fulkerson of Albion; a son, Richard R. Fulkerson of Albion; a daughter, Anna E. Fulkerson of Albion; a brother, Charles "Butch" Saylor of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Mary Harden of Butler and Cecilia "CB" Curry of Columbia City; and one granddaughter, Ashley Bolenbaugh of Indianapolis.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Services were Thursday, May 1, 2003, at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home. Burial was at Lindenwood Cemetery.

Memorials are to Small Animal Hospital, Michigan State University in care of Dr. Flo.

Alan Kimmell

KIMMELL – Alan Kimmell, 85, died at 4:15 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2003, at his home after a yearlong illness.

He was a farmer. He lived all his life on the same farm where he was born. He was a member of Ligonier Elks Lodge 451 and was treasurer of the Sparta Cemetery Association for many years.

He was born in Kimmell August 19, 1917, to Claude and Hannah (Kiester) Kimmell.

He married Helen Spurgeon October 16, 1941, in Ligonier. She survives.

Also surviving are three nephews and one niece.

His sister, Anna May Brown, preceded him in death in December 2002.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at Sparta Cemetery, with the Rev. Jean Ness officiating.

Memorials are to the Whitley County Division of Parkview Hospice.

S. Rex Elliott

ROME CITY – S. Rex Elliott, 62, died at 10:45 p.m. Sunday, April 20, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

He lived in the area for 38 years. He was retired from Noble County REMC. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, serving during the Vietnam War. He was a member of VFW Post 2749 in Kendallville and American Legion Post 381 in Rome City, and First Presbyterian Church in Albion.

He was born in Hartford City June 11, 1940, to Clayton and Jane (Sills) Elliott.

He married Sara Vaughn July 2, 1965, in Muncie. She survives in Rome City.

Also surviving are a son, Kirk Elliott of Elkhart; a daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Daniel Bentz of Virginia Beach, VA; four grandchildren; one brother; and two sisters.

One brother preceded him in death.

Services were held Thursday, April 17, 2003, at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville, with Dan Frick officiating.

Memorials are to Orange Township EMS.

Mildred Vanderbosch

GARRETT — Mildred Slusher Vanderbosch, 90, died Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

Mrs. Vanderbosch was born in Boston. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Garrett, the Rosary Society, Harvest House and DeKalb County Democrats. She was a volunteer at the former Garrett Hospital.

She married Louis Vanderbosch on Sept. 7, 1929, in Garrett. He preceded her in death

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Jeannette Lloyd of Auburn and Ursula and Victor Ley of Avilla; two sons and daughters-in-law, Henry and Judy Vanderbosch of Garrett and Leonard and Judy Vanderbosch of Colbert, Wash.; 22 grandchildren, Rusty Lloyd III, Lee Shoudel, Holly Hoffman, Mandy Lloyd, Christine Emerick, Denise Fanger, Michael Ley, James Ley, Laura Rudd, Sharon Kacprowicz, Nancy Reinhardt, Steven Ley, Patrick Ley, Cathy Mettert, Brian Vanderbosch, Mark Vanderbosch, Marcie Collier, Monica Sanders, Michael Vanderbosch, Leonard Vanderbosh, Todd Vanderbosch and Beth Clauss; 39 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three sons, James, Thomas and David, and two granddaughters.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in St. Joseph Catholic Church of Garrett. Burial will be in St. Mary Catholic Cemetery of Avilla.

Calling is Friday from 2-8 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with a rosary service at 5 p.m.

Memorials are to Masses or to the Louis and Mildred Vanderbosch Tuition Aid Trust at St. Joseph School.

Condolences may be sent to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Ila Brumbaugh

KENDALLVILLE — Ila L. Brumbaugh, 81, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at Porter Memorial Hospital in Valparaiso.

She was a homemaker and enjoyed doing crossword puzzles and flower gardening.

She was born in Churubusco Feb. 7, 1922, to Frederick and Bernice (Slatter) Guiff.

She married Charles H. Brumbaugh Nov. 9, 1940, in Kendallville. He survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Harry and Rose Brumbaugh of Waterloo; two daughters and one son-in-law, Connie Brumbaugh of Kendallville and Karen and Bruce Parks of Rome City; a brother, Richard Guiff of Churubusco; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Janis and Rodney Lansaw of Churubusco, Jeanette and Raymond Witte of Tupelo, Miss., and Genevieve Martin of Churubusco; three grandsons, Joshua, Caleb and Graham Parks, all of Kendallville; a granddaughter, Tausha Mason of Kendallville; a great-grandson, Skye Parks of Kendallville; and three great-granddaughters, Jhade Parks, Kara Mason and Hannah Mason, all of Kendallville.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Larry Ferrero officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Assembly of God Church in Kendallville.

Ervin Tilbury Sr.

HUDSON — Ervin E. Tilbury Sr., 72, died Wednesday, April 30, 2002, at his home.

Mr. Tilbury was self-employed in the lumber business for more than 40 years.

He enjoyed playing euchre and his hobbies were fishing and hunting. He was a member of the Salem Center Presbyterian Church and president of the Steuben County Farm Bureau.

He was born July 27, 1930, in Allen County to Mervin and Nellie (Campbell) Tilbury.

He married Carol A. Fultz in Salem Center Presbyterian Church on April 10, 1955. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons, Gene Jasper Tilbury of Austin, Texas, and Richard M. Tilbury and Robert A. Tilbury, both of rural Hudson; two daughters, Cindy L. Hawkes of Boise, Idaho, and Kathleen M. Humphrey of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Frenchy Gratts and Doris Huddleston, both of Ocala, Fla.; a brother, Donald Tilbury of Angola; 14 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Paul, Raymond and Herb Tilbury, and a sister, Margaret Dehaven.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. in Salem Center Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Howard Compton officiating. Burial will be in Block Cemetery.

Calling is Friday from2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Johnson Funeral Home, 612 N. Main St., Hudson, and Saturday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the Salem Center Presbyterian Church.

Condolences may be sent to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Zella Murphy

CHURUBUSCO — Zella Murphy, 94, died at 11:05 p.m. Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at her home. She was in declining health since a fall Feb. 28.

After attending the Burtfield School in Tarpon, Va., she lived in Caretta, W.Va., for 61 years, where she operated a boarding house for several years. She moved to Churubusco in 1990.

She was born in Dickeson County, Va., March 4, 1909, to James A. and Mary Francis (Haines) Newberry.

Mrs. Murphy

She married Hobert Murphy in Tarpon Feb. 15, 1923. He died in 1950.

Surviving are her daughter, Evelyn A. Short of Churubusco; her son and daughter-in-law, James and Shirley Murphy of Columbia City; a sister, Oakley Artrip of Clincho, W.Va.; 13 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and 12 great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a son, Hobert Murphy Jr.; a daughter, Barbara Roberts; and three sisters, Vesta Porter, Mariah Watson and Myrtle Mullins.

Services will be Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, with the Rev. J. Phillip Blake of Columbia City United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at South Park Cemetery, Columbia Township.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 8 p.m.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Mary Lou Norris

ALBION — Mary Lou Norris, 75, died at 8:05 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at Oak Leaf Nursing Home, Ligonier.

She lived in the community since 1941. She was the Noble County bookmobile librarian for 16 years. She was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Albion and a member of the Albion High School class of 1945. She enjoyed hummingbirds, reading, gardening and bowling for over 50 years.

She was born in Peru, Ind., Aug. 16, 1927, to Robert and Rubye (Spohn) DuBois.

She married Philip Norris May 2, 1945. He survives in Albion.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Marc and Jan Norris of Albion and Scott and Janet Norris of Syracuse; two daughters and a son-in-law, Karen and Duane Dreibelbis of Albion and Deborah Weidenhamer of Fort Wayne; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Harry Bill DuBois.

Services will be Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Mt. Pleasant Lutheran Church in Kendallville, with Pastor Ann Marshall officiating. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Calling will be Friday from 1 to 8 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, Albion, and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to diabetes research or the American Heart Association.

Michael Hohenstein

WOLCOTTVILLE — Michael A. Hohenstein, 48, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, in Wolcottville.

He enjoyed woodworking and was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Hessen Cassel.

He was born in Fort Wayne to Paul R. and Martha Hohenstein.

Surviving are his wife, Jeanne Hohenstein of Fort Wayne; a son, Mark J. Hohenstein at home; a daughter, Julie A. Hohenstein at home; two brothers, Paul R. Hohenstein Jr. of Wolcottville, David H. Hohenstein of Avilla; and a sister, Carol S. Hohenstein of Fort Wayne.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Hessen Cassel Catholic Church, 11337 Old 27 South, with prayers at 10:30 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Foster Park Funeral Home, 6301 Fairfield Ave.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Lupus Foundation of America or the Hohenstein Children Education Fund.

John Kreider

FORT WAYNE — John "Jack" C. Kreider, 85, died Monday, April 28, 2003, at Applewood Health & Rehabilitation Center in Fort Wayne.

He was a conductor with Amtrak and previously the Pennsylvania Railroad for 39 years, retiring in 1979. He was involved with Masonic Home Lodge, Past Master, Shriners, York Rite and Odd Fellows. He was a member of Forest Park United Methodist Church.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

His wife, Jean E. (Beiersdorfer) Kreider, died in 2002.

Surviving are a daughter, Jacqueline R. Hayward of Fort Wayne; three grandchildren, Denise Y. Hayward of Avilla, John F. Hayward of Cincinnati, Janelle R. Hayward of Fort Wayne; five great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held at a later date at Lindenwood Cemetery.

D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials are to Shriners Children's Hospital.

Doris England-Pegan

WABASH — Doris Loretta England-Pegan, 84, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at home.

She was an inspector for Wabash Inc. for 20 years. She was a member of the Christian Church in Wabash where she was an elder and Sunday school teacher for children and adults. She was a member of Eastern Star 90.

She was born in Wabash April 24, 1919, to Walter and Pearl (Grisso) Figert.

She married Charles F. England Aug. 24, 1940. He died Sept. 24, 1968. She then married Cecil Pegan Nov. 25, 1989. He died July 7, 1990.

Surviving are two stepsons, Gary Pegan of Huntington and Jim Pegan of Kendallville; two daughters and sons-in-law, Becky and Joseph Patton of Tempe, Ariz., and Gloria and Gary Brubaker of Pierceton; one stepdaughter and her husband, Betty and Harvey Corn of Kokomo; three brothers, Malkcom Figert of Dallas, Earl Figert of Lakeland, Fla., and Walter Lamonine Figert of Wabash; three sisters, Mary Walker of Peru, Ind., Ruby Kirby of Huntertown and Reberta Baumbauer of Wabash; seven grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a son, Andrew England; two brothers; and two sisters.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at McDonald Funeral Home, Eddingfield Chapel 231 Falls Ave., Wabash, with Susie Beamer officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Wabash Cancer Society, 5 Maple Court, North Manchester, IN 46962; or Wabash-Miami Co. Home Health Hospice, 710 N. East St., Wabash, IN.

Vernon Abel

ALBION — Vernon Abel, 86, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, in Columbia City.

He was born in Allen County Oct. 3, 1916.

His wife Pauline Abel died in 2000.

Mr. Abel

Surviving are a son and two daughters-in-law, Roger and Carol Abel of Columbia City and Marilyn Abel of Albion; nine grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding him in death was a son, Larry Abel.

Services will be Saturday at noon at Covington Memorial Funeral Home, 8408 Covington Road, Fort Wayne. Burial will be at Covington Memorial Gardens.

Calling will be two hours before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Foundation.

Edward Sattler

KENDALLVILLE — Edward W. Sattler, 72, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at Kendallville Healthcare Center. Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct a newspaper error.

Mary Lou Norris

ALBION — Mary Lou Norris, 75, died at 8:05 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at Oak Leaf Nursing Home, Ligonier.

She lived in the community since 1941. She was the Noble County bookmobile librarian for 16 years. She was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Albion and a member of the Albion High School class of 1945. She enjoyed hummingbirds, reading, gardening and bowling for over 50 years.

She was born in Peru, Ind., Aug. 16, 1927, to Robert and Rubye (Spohn) DuBois.

She married Philip Norris May 28, 1945. He survives in Albion.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Marc and Jan Norris of Albion and Scott and Janet Norris of Syracuse; two daughters and a son-in-law, Karen and Duane Dreibelbis of Albion and Deborah Weidenhamer of Fort Wayne; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Harry Bill DuBois.

Services will be Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Mt. Pleasant Lutheran Church in Kendallville, with Pastor Ann Marshall officiating. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Calling will be today from 1 to 8 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, Albion, and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to diabetes research or the American Heart Association.

Paul Krauss Jr.

LAGRANGE — Paul F. Krauss Jr., 55, died Thursday, May 1, 2003, at 2 a.m. in Lansing, Ill.

Mr. Krauss was an engineer on the CSX Railroad for 28 years. He had lived in rural LaGrange for 28 years.

He was born Sept. 8, 1947, in Columbia City to Paul F. Krauss Sr. and Norma (Harper) Krauss.

Suriviving are three daughters, Casey Combs of Waterloo, Brandy Penland of Decatur and Ronda Dicamillo of Gilbert, Ariz.; 11 grandchildren; and five sisters, Jewell McLaughlin of Howe, Rebecca Conkling, Carlene Shaffer of Kendallville, Kathy Cooper and Sandra Sanchez of Waco, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a son, Michael Krauss.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett. Pastor David Farling will officiate. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

Calling will be Tuesday from 3-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be sent to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Homer Houck Jr.

KENDALLVILLE — Homer H. Houck Jr., 81, died Thursday, May 1, 2003, at Greencroft Terraces Health Care in Goshen.

He retired from G.T.E. in electronic communications after 36 years of employment. He was a member of Beulah Missionary Church in Goshen. He graduated from Kendallville High School in 1942 and Valparaiso University in 1946.

He was born in Defiance, Ohio, Jan. 22, 1922, to Homer and Naoma (Krill) Houck Sr.

He married Wahneta Bunn. She died in January 1998.

Surviving are a son, David Houck of Detroit; a sister and brother-in-law, Anna Lee and Gene Mory of South Milford; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Edwin and Delores Houck of LaGrange and Cleon and Retha Houck of Alexandria, Minn.; and a grandson, Rocky Houck.

Private family services will be held Saturday at 1 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home. Burial will be at South Milford Cemetery.

No calling.

Memorials are to Greencroft Terraces Health Care in Goshen.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneral-home.com.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct information from the funeral home.

Ila Brumbaugh

KENDALLVILLE — Ila L. Brumbaugh, 81, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at Porter Memorial Hospital in Valparaiso.

She was a homemaker and enjoyed doing crossword puzzles and flower gardening.

She was born in Churubusco Feb. 7, 1922, to Frederick and Bernice (Slatter) Guiff.

She married Charles H. Brumbaugh Nov. 9, 1940, in Kendallville. He survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Harry and Rose Brumbaugh of Waterloo; two daughters and one son-in-law, Connie Brumbaugh of Kendallville and Karen and Bruce Parks of Rome City; a brother, Richard Guiff of Churubusco; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Janis and Rodney Lansaw of Churubusco, Jeanette and Raymond Witte of Tupelo, Miss., and Genevieve Martin of Churubusco; three grandsons, Joshua, Caleb and Graham Parks, all of Kendallville; a granddaughter, Tausha Mason of Kendallville; a great-granddaughter, Skye Parks of Kendallville; and three great-granddaughters, Jhade Parks, Kara Mason and Hannah Mason, all of Kendallville.

Services will be today at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Larry Ferrero officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Memorials are to the Assembly of God Church in Kendallville.

Ellen Miller

GOSHEN — Ellen G. Miller, 78, formerly of Middlebury, died Thursday, May 1, 2003, at Greencroft Nursing Center.

Mrs. Miller was born June 12, 1924, in Middlebury to Tobias and Anna (Bontrager) Eash. She married Albert H. Miller in Middlebury on June 10, 1945. He preceded her in death on Dec. 15, 2000.

Mrs. Miller

She was a homemaker, and also did quilt making and seamstress work out of her home.

She was a member of Griner Mennonite Church, Middlebury, where she assisted her husband, who was the pastor there.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Nathan Miller of Rosedale, Ohio; three sons and daughters-in-law, Eldon and Gem Miller of Lederach, Pa., Leon and Linda Miller of Belleville, Pa., and Gary and Anna Miller of Middlebury; 13 grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Mabel and Katherine Eash, and two brothers, Sanford and Linus Eash.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at Griner Mennonite Church, the Rev. Harley Troyer and the Rev. Robert Riegsecker officiating. Calling is from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the church.

Burial will be in Miller Cemetery, Goshen.

Memorials are to Rosedale Mennonite missions.

Edward Sattler

CORUNNA — Edward W. Sattler, 72, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, at Kendallville Manor Healthcare Center.

He was born in Fort Wayne on Sept. 21, 1930, to William and Fannie (Brown) Sattler.

Mr. Sattler

He was a 1948 graduate of Rome City High School.

He married Lois M. Cramer on Nov. 24, 1957, in Paulding, Ohio. She preceded him in death on Nov. 17, 1994.

He retired from Kraft Foods in 1995 after 22 years, and was also involved in dairy farming throughout his life. He was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Wolcottville, where he took care of and mowed the church lawn.

From 1951-58, he was a sergeant first class in the Fort Wayne National Guard. He enjoyed watching basketball.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Alice and David Frazie of Wolcottville and Nancy Swank of Cromwell, and five nieces and three nephews.

He was also preceded in death by an infant sister, Fannie Elizabeth, and a brother, Fredrick Adam Sattler, on Dec. 17, 1982.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Messiah Lutheran Church in Wolcottville, the Rev. James Tews officiating. Calling will be Monday from 10 a.m. until the time of the service.

Burial will be in Orange Cemetery near Rome City.

Memorials are to Messiah Lutheran's New Sanctuary Fund.

Condolences can be e-mailed at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Raymond Gilbert

KENDALLVILLE — Raymond Gilbert, 88, Clearwater, Fla., died Thursday, May 1, 2003, at Kendallville Manor Healthcare.

He had lived at The Chandler House for the last three months.

Since 1978, he had lived in Clearwater, Fla., coming originally from Staten Island, N.Y. He was born in Blairstown, N.J., on July 14, 1914, to Herbert and Carrie (Studtner) Gilbert. He graduated from Port Richmond High School in Staten Island.

He was a World War II U.S. Army veteran.

He married Lola Elaine VanNostrand, who preceded him in death in 1996.

He was a hardware salesman for Masback in New York most of his working career, selling hardware to retail stores. He was a member of the V.F.W. in Clearwater and Kendallville.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Jeff and Charis Snyder-Gilbert of Kendallville; a sister, Edith LaFrenia of Spokane, Wash.; a niece, Janet Rajter of Clearwater; and three grandchildren, Mark, Joseph and Lauren Tagliaferro.

No services or visitation will be held. Burial of ashes will take place in Florida at a later date.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

Condolences can be e-mailed at www.hitefuneralhome.com

Garnet Bonahoom

FORT WAYNE — Garnet I. Bonahoom, 96, died Thursday, May 1, 2003, at St. Anne Home.

Born in Portland, she was a homemaker and a member of St. Jude Catholic Church. She was a charter member of XYL Ham Radio Club.

Surviving are three daughters, Barbara Davenport of Silver Spring, Md., Wanda Schrader of New Haven and Judith Attar of Crown Point; a daughter-in-law, Joanne Bonahoom of Oconowoc, Wis.; 21 grandchildren; and 32 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Fuad G. Bonahoom, a brother, Harold Richardson, and a son, Jim Bonahoom.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at St. Jude Catholic Church. Calling is from 2 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Mungovan & Sons Memorial Chapel, Fort Wayne, and one hour prior to services at the church.

Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Memorials are to Masses at St. Jude.

Richard Conley

WOLCOTTVILLE — Funeral services are pending at Hutchins Funeral Home, Wolcottville, for Richard R. "Dick" Conley, 68.

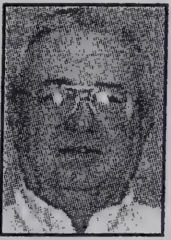
Mr. Conley died Friday, May 2, 2003, in LaGrange. He was a former LaGrange County Council member and a banker.

Survivors include his wife, Audra; their two sons, Mike and Pat; and three grandchildren.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 3
Kendallville, Indiana

"He was an all-around great guy. Helping me move in a snowstorm ... that's just the kind of guy Dick was."

Fred Hartz
LaGrange County
deputy prosecutor


Mr. Conley

Former councilman dies

Dick Conley remembered as good-natured people person

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

LAGRANGE — Former LaGrange County Councilman Richard "Dick" Conley died unexpectedly on Friday morning.

Conley, 68, suffered a fatal heart attack while on the job at the LaGrange County Country Club golf course, where he worked part-time as a groundskeeper.

"He had a lot of friends here, and he loved to golf," said Ed Keil, who worked with Conley at the golf course. "He was a banker before he retired. Mowing here was just something he did to keep himself busy after he retired."

Conley served on the council from 1992 to 2002.

Jay Dee Hostetler has been a member of the LaGrange County Council since

SEE **COUCILMAN**, PAGE A8

COUNCILMAN: *Conley remembered as 'a great man'*

FROM PAGE A1

1978. He said Conley's background in banking was an invaluable asset to the council.

"He was very knowledgeable on financial matters," Hostetler said. "He gave good advice, and we really relied on him for that."

During his career, Conley worked at a number of banks. Those included Campbell & Fetter, Churubusco Bank, Auburn Federal (which became People's Federal), Shipshewana State Bank, Lincoln Bank and Norwest Bank. His jobs ran the gamut from loan officer to bank president.

George Bachman began his tenure with the council in 1998. At the time, Conley was acting council president.

"When I came in, I was brand-new in politics," Bachman said. "He was helpful to me. He guided me. When you're new, there are people who make you feel welcome and people who don't. He did."

Bachman said county government was very important to Conley.

"He was a very conscientious citizen and legislator," he said.

Conley is survived by his wife, Audra, and their two sons, Mike and Pat. Also surviving are three grandchildren. The Conleys had made their home in LaGrange for several decades.

"He was a great man," Mike Conley said. "He was just a fun-loving, good-natured people person who loved to golf and loved his family."

LaGrange County Deputy Prosecutor Fred Hartz was friends with Conley for nearly 30 years. The two met in 1974, when Hartz was hired as an attorney and trust officer at the bank Conley was working at.

"Dick was the first person I met when I got here," Hartz said.

As it turned out, meeting Conley was a great stroke of luck for Hartz.

"I moved here from Bloomington. When I left Bloomington, it was 55 and sunny," Hartz said. "I got here, and there was like 20 inches of snow. Dick helped me move my furniture into my house in the middle of a blinding snowstorm."

Hartz discovered such selflessness was one of Conley's most distinctive personality traits.

"He was an all-around great guy," he said. "Helping me move in a snowstorm ... that's just the kind of guy Dick was."

James Lepper

KOKOMO — James L. Lepper, 35, died on Thursday, May 1, 2003, at his home in Kokomo of spinal cancer.

Mr. Lepper was employed at Walnut Creek Apartments as a HVAC technician. He was a member of Calvary Temple Church.

He was born March 24, 1968, to James W. and Rebecca (Crosby) Lepper and was a Fort Wayne resident for 20 years before relocating to Kokomo. He graduated from North Side High School. He married Connie Lepper of Kokomo. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Mikeal Lepper of Kokomo; his mother, Rebecca Lepper of Dallas; his father, James W. Lepper of Butler; his grandmother, Mary Crosby; and his stepmother, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services will be 1 p.m. Monday at Ellers Mortuary, Webster Street Chapel, Kokomo. Pastor Mike Markely will officiate. Burial will be at Albright Cemetery in Kokomo.

Calling will be 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the mortuary.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society of Howard County.

Mae White

EMPORIA, Va. — Mae Irene Dinius White, 79, died Thursday, May 1, 2003.

She is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Aletha and T. Gilbert Hudson of Valentines, Va.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Jerry W. and Eva White Jr. of Hudson and Tom R. and Susan White of Berne; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Services will be 2 p.m. today at the Main Street Baptist Church in Emporia. Burial will be in Emporia Cemetery.

Memorials are to Main Street Baptist Church Memorial Fund.

Josiah Bontrager

MIDDLEBURY — Josiah David Bontrager died at 10:25 p.m. Friday, May 2, 2003, at Riley Hospital in Indianapolis. He was 1 day old.

Josiah was born May 1, 2003, to James and Susan (Krajewski) Bontrager in Goshen. They survive.

Also surviving are five sisters, Julia Bontrager, Rachel Bontrager, Shoshannah Bontrager, Grace Bontrager and Joy Bontrager, all living at home in Middlebury; three brothers, Jonathan Bontrager, Curtis Bontrager and Daniel Bontrager, all living at home in Middlebury; four grandparents, Mearlene Reynolds, John Krajewski and Helen Krajewski, all of Goshen, and Jon Bontrager of Elkhart; and a great-grandmother, Lucile Grabill of Goshen.

Graveside services will be 7 p.m. Monday at Pleasant Valley Cemetery in Middlebury. The Rev. Mike Lechlitner and Jim Bontrager, Josiah's father, will officiate.

Calling will be 4 to 7 p.m. Monday at River of Life Fellowship Church in Middlebury.

Memorials are to Bibles for China, care of Strategic Global Assistance Inc.

Richard Conley

LAGRANGE — Richard R. "Dick" Conley, 68, died at 8:38 a.m. on Friday, May 2, 2003, at the LaGrange Community Hospital of a heart attack.

Mr. Conley, a former resident of Rome City, Kendallville and Churubusco, was a retired banker and a former LaGrange County councilman. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was a member of the LaGrange Jaycees, Elks Lodge, American Legion Post 215 and Masonic Lodge and a past member of the LaGrange Rotary Club.

He was born Nov. 29, 1934, to Thomas J. and Margaret (Storey) Conley in Wolcottville. He married Audra E. Miller on Oct. 17, 1958, in Avilla. They lived in LaGrange for 30 years. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Patrick O. and Angel Conley and Michael S. and Tara Conley, all of Indianapolis; three grandchildren, Alexa Conley, Nathan Conley and Tyler Conley; and a sister, Phyllis Buttermore of Auburn.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Meryvn Minnichillo, and a brother, Robert J. Conley.

Services will be 1 p.m. Tuesday at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville. Dale Sturtz will officiate. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery in LaGrange.

Calling will be 2 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 4 Kendallville, Indiana

Webber loved family, life on Clear Lake

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

CLEAR LAKE — Jack, Richard and Jerry Webber were the closest of brothers.

"He was one of the very best brothers you could have ever had," said Richard of his brother Jack, who was 18 months his senior.

Jack E. Webber, 73, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. His death was sudden; he succumbed to a massive stroke.

Mr. Webber and his brothers were all Fort Wayne natives. When they retired, each moved to a different Steuben County lake. While Jack made his home at Clear Lake, Richard went to Barton Lake and Jerry to Pleasant Lake.

"He loved his boat and he loved golfing," Richard said. "He'd owned the cottage for quite some time, but after our little brother and me moved to the area and Jack retired, he came here full-time, too."

All three Webber brothers celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries in the past couple of years. Jack and his wife, Marian, had been married for 52 years.

"It would have been 53 years this August," Richard said. "He loved his wife and his kids, and he loved being a grandpa."

Mr. Webber

Jack retired in 1996 after 44 years with the transportation industry in both sales and management.

"In fact, all three of us worked in that field," Richard said. "See how close we were?"

He was a U.S. Air Forc veteran and a member of Clea Lake Lutheran Church of the Clear Lake Lions.

"He was very active in his church, and in the Lions," Richard said.

Also surviving are two daughters, Shirley A. Brandt and Gayle S. Cooper, both of Fort Wayne; four grandsons, Erik and Ryan Brandt, Nathan Clymer and Reid Webber; two granddaughters, Aimee Brandt and Sydney Webber; a great-granddaughter, Karsen Brandt; and two brothers, Richard N. and Jerry G. Webber, both of Fremont.

Welcome Pankop delighted in her life

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — Little Welcome arrived at the Heltzel home in Kendallville Jan. 5, 1914. Her parents, Milton and Sylvia, lived above the small grocery store they owned on South Main Street.

As a child of about 4, Welcome delighted in the short ride on the interurban — the train that ran between Kendallville and Fort Wayne — as it made its turnaround near Deibele Creek, where The Wreck now stands.

Welcome's parents sold the store on South Main Street, as well as a second store on West William Street. According to their grandson Arthur Pankop, "The Depression did them in."

The family moved north to Woodruff, where Welcome's father took up farming and ran a milk route.

When she graduated from Wolcottville High School in the early 1930s, Welcome did what many young women did back then. She moved back into town with a prominent family to become their cook and housekeeper. The Berhalter family on East Rush Street welcomed her into their home.

She started playing the piano during silent movies at the Princess Theater. It was while waitressing at Stemen's, presently Northern Exteriors, that she met her future husband, William Pankop.

William worked for two different garages, and also had an interesting hobby — flying. On their dates, William picked up Welcome in Kendallville, then the couple drove back to Ligonier where he kept a plane. The couple enjoyed buzzing over the Heltzel farm in the small, open-cockpit bi-plane. Welcome would return to her parents' home and ask excitedly, "Did you see us waving?" But, Arthur Pankop said, "It used to upset her folks."

William and Welcome were married Aug. 16, 1933. When Arthur was born, Welcome became full-time homemaker, wife and mother, but when he left for college and career, she was ready to get out of the house again. She was the 12th employee hired at Albion's first factory — the Lyall Dekko plant, where she remained for about eight years.

In the late 1950s, when Arthur Pankop was hired by the state of Indiana, he persuaded his mother to get involved in Republican Party politics. Several years after he left office, she was still working for the election board.

Her beloved William passed away in September 1988, and she suffered a stroke in 1998. According to Shepherd of the Hill activities director Nan Quaintance, up until she died on April 25 at the age of 89, Welcome remained "very sociable and involved and loved to see the children" on their daily visits from Early Adventures Child Care. "She was delightful," added Quaintance.

Mrs. Pankop saw a lot of changes in her lifetime, but for as long as she could, she remained involved in the lives of others.

David Babin

GOSHEN — David J. Babin, 61, died at 3:40 a.m. Sunday, May 4, 2003, at his home. He had been ill since January.

He worked at Sorg Dodge in Goshen for 29 years. He was a member of Pleasant Ridge Missionary Church and P.T. Cruiser Club. He enjoyed bowling and playing golf, woodworking and landscaping. He was a fan of the Purdue Boilermakers. He had graduated from Kendallville High School in 1959.

He was born in Avilla June 14, 1941, to Joseph and Dorthy (Goldman) Babin.

He married Elnora Marie Kauffman June 15, 1963, in Goshen, at 8th Street Mennonite Church. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Brianna and Doug Yoder of Elkhart and Michele and Craig Babin-Nelson of Indianapolis; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Mary and Donn Fleck of Millersburg and Rosalie DeBoard of Kendallville; and a brother, William Babin of Kendallville.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at Yoder-Culp Funeral Home in Goshen, with Pastor Jim Breniser of Pleasant Ridge Missionary Church and Jeff Parson and Lewis Miller officiating. Burial will be at Violette Cemetery, Goshen.

Calling will be Wednesday from 1 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home and one hour before services.

Memorials are to Pleasant Ridge Missionary Church or United Cancer Services of Elkhart County.

J. Fred Karst

LAOTTO — J. Fred Karst, 79, died Sunday, May 4, 2003. Arrangements are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, Churubusco.

David Appleman

ROME CITY — David Patrick Appleman, 44, died at 2:30 a.m. Sunday, May 4, 2003, at his home.

He was a production worker at Kraft Foods. He moved to Kendallville from Baltimore 24 years ago. He enjoyed fishing, cooking and doing yardwork.

He was born in Baltimore, Md., May 9, 1958, to Clarence and Betty (Warren) Appleman. His mother, Betty Phillips survives in Baltimore.

He married Krestina Alleshouse May 8, 1999, at the Church of the Cornerstone in Auburn.

Surviving are a daughter, Misti Appleman of Avilla; a son, Michael David Kelly of Rome City; two stepsons, Chad Childeres of Wolcottville and Dylan Childeres of Rome City; a brother, Jay Appleman of Baltimore; two sisters, Kim Bischoff of Baltimore and Doralynn Bradon of Jacksonville, Fla.; and his parents-in-law, Paula Ritchie and Lyn Alleshouse, both of Kendallville.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with Pastor H. Dean Woolard of the Church of the Cornerstone officiating.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla.

Memorials are to the family or to the donor's choice.

Alice Young

MUNCIE — Alice Jane Young, 72, died Saturday, May 3, 2003, at Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie after a recent illness.

Mrs. Young

She was born in Muncie Sept. 18, 1930, to Lloyd and Carrie (McDowell) Larrowe. Mrs. Young was a 1948 graduate of Selma High School. She was a homemaker and member of DD Euchre Club since 1949 and the Cowan Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary.

Mrs. Young also was an avid bowler and former member of Cowan United Methodist Church.

Surviving are her husband of 52 years, James P. Young; two sons, James P. II and Rebecca Young of LaGrange, and Jeff and Jo Ellen Young of Muncie; a sister, Beverly "Mickey" and Thurston Duke of Muncie; four grandchildren and spouses, Evelyn Kaye and Michael Phipps of Anderson, Jason P. Young of Anderson, Joshua Young and his companion Michelle Hoover of Albany, and Jesse and Ronald Beal of Muncie; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Paul and Robert Larrowe; and two sisters, Betty May and Helen Clifford.

Services will be Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Parson Mortuary. Burial will be at Mount Tabor Cemetery.

Calling is today from 4 to 8 p.m.

Memorials are to the Arthritis Foundation, Indiana Chapter, 8660 Guion Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www. parsonmortuary.com.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 5
Kendallville, Indiana

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ila Brumbaugh** were held Saturday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Larry Ferrero officiating. Burial was at Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Joshua Parks, Caleb Parks, Graham Parks, Mike Mason, Mike Lansaw, Dick Witte, Ron Witte and Steve Tatman.

Honorary pallbearers were Bill Martin and Darren Guiff.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Homer Houck** were held Saturday at 1 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Jack McGlason officiating. Burial was at South Milford Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Mike Rowe, Tom Nott, Gary Fry, Verlin Houck, David Houck and David Legg.

J. Fred Karst

LAOTTO — J. Fred Karst, 79, died at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, May 4, 2003, at Select Specialty Hospital in Fort Wayne, following an extended illness.

He graduated from South Side High School in Fort Wayne in 1942. He moved from Fort Wayne to Noble County in 1976. He was formerly employed by Worthman Homes and at General Electric during World War II. He owned and operated Karst Construction for over 15 years, and retired in 1975 from Cole Pattern & Engineering Co. Inc. in Fort Wayne after 15 years.

He was a member of Churubusco United Methodist Church and was a former church school teacher and choir member at South Wayne United Methodist Church in Fort Wayne.

He was born in Fort Wayne Jan. 30, 1924, to Jacob and Freda M. (Gingher) Karst.

He married Kathleen "Kate" R. Neith Nov. 5, 1943, in Fort Wayne. She survives in rural LaOtto.

Also surviving are three daughters, Sandra Shortridge of Dillsburg, Pa., Sharon Ann Sydnor of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Kathy Sue Karst of San Diego, Calif.; one son, Rick Karst of Fort Wayne; six grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a sister.

Memorial services will be Friday at 6 p.m. at Churubusco United Methodist Church, with the Revs. E. Vaughn Powell and Christine Newman-Jacobs officiating.

Calling will follow the service in the fellowship hall.

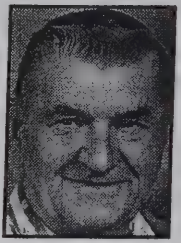
Memorials are to the church or Select Specialty Hospital.

Arrangements by Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, Churubusco.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Murel Loflin

LAGRANGE — Murel LeRoy Loflin, 71, died at 5 a.m. Monday, May 5, 2003, at his home.



Mr. Loflin

He was owner and operator of Loflin's Garage in Rome City for 20 years.

He was born in Charleston, Mo., July 17, 1931, to Luther and Anna LaVinnie (Jennings) Loflin.

He married Beverly Randol June 6, 1967, in Pleasant Lake. She survives in LaGrange.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Linda Loflin of Angola and Valarie and Virgil Arnzen of Benton, Mo.; two stepsons and daughters-in-law, Tom and Ellen Wynne of Pioneer, Ohio, and Jerry and Sue Wynne of Pleasant Lake; one stepdaughter, Beth Ballard of Pocahontas, Ark.; seven grandchildren; 10 stepgrandchildren; one great-grandchild; two stepgreat-grandchildren; one sister, Freda Clark of Bandera, Texas; and one brother, Eugene Loflin of Savannah, Ga.

He was preceded in death by two half sisters and three half brothers.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Mt. Calvary United Baptist Church in Stroh, with the Rev. Willie Collins, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at Brushy Chapel Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be today after 6 p.m. and Wednesday all day at the church.

Hutchins Funeral Home of Wolcottville is in charge of arrangements.

Matthew Johnson

GARRETT — Matthew Alan Johnson, 24, died Saturday, May 3, 2003, at 8:20 p.m. in an automobile collision on C.R. 40-A east of Auburn.

Mr. Johnson

Mr. Johnson worked at Artistic Carton in Auburn and was a member of the U.S. Marine Corps. He graduated from Garrett High School in 1996.

He was born Sept. 13, 1978, in Auburn.

He is survived by his father, Keith Johnson of Garrett; his mother and stepfather, Debby (Derrow) and Ron Hoover of Wolcottville; three sisters, Jamie Medellin of Kendallville, Heather Tarto of Texas and Jessica Johnson of Ohio; a brother, Tyler Johnson of Angola; two grandmothers, Judy Nichols of Auburn and Susanna Johnson of Auburn; a nephew, Devon Hoover; and two nieces, Autumn Hoover and Haley Hoover.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with the Rev. John Kinsey officiating.

Calling is Wednesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

A private family burial will take place at a later date.

Memorials are to the family.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Mildred Speaker

Mrs. Speaker

KIMMELL — Mildred Irene Speaker, 92, died at 12 a.m. Monday, May 5, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

She had been a Kimmell resident since 1925. She was employed by Lyall Electric in Albion for 22 years. She attended Kimmell United Methodist Church and enjoyed playing bingo and working crossword puzzles.

She was born in Potomac, Ill., April 23, 1911, to Thomas and Mary Elva (Rogers) Wills.

She married Everette C. Speaker Dec. 14, 1927, in Goshen. He died in 1979.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Everette Jr. and Jean Speaker of Harper Lake, Kimmell; a daughter and son-in-law, Shirley and Alan Moog of Flippin, Ark.; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Thomas Edward Speaker; a brother, Chester Wills; a half brother, Clyde Wills; and four half sisters, Mamie, Ida, Bessie and Austa.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, with the Rev. Randy Miller of Kimmell United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Calling will be Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Danny Gannon

ROME CITY — Danny R. Gannon, 46, died Saturday, May 3, 2003, in Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago. He had been ill since 1993 and was disabled.

He came to the area with his family from West Virginia in 1958.

He was born in Welch, W.Va., Dec. 24, 1956, to Robert and Sarah (Phillips) Gannon. They survive in Rome City.

He married Geraldine Wallen Dec. 30, 1978, in Rome City. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Peggy Gannon of Rome City; two brothers, George and Kenneth Gannon, both of Rome City; and a sister, Laurie Flint of Corunna.

His brother Robert preceded him in death.

Graveside services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Ontario Cemetery in LaGrange County.

There is no calling.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, Kendallville, is in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Edward Sattler** were held Monday at 11 a.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church, with the Rev. James Tews officiating. Burial was at Orange Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Kevin Cramer, Sam Duehmig, Claude Hoffman, Gary Miller, Bruce Stackhouse and Richard White.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

Ryan Detloff

HELMER — Ryan A. Detloff, 28, died Monday in an automobile accident near Howe.

Mr. Detloff was employed as an ironworker with Local 395. He was a member of Ducks Unlimited and a 1993 graduate of Prairie Heights High School.

He was born Feb. 9, 1975, in Hammond.

Surviving are his parents, Sherri and George Dale Hoffman of Helmer; one sister, Holly Hoffman of Helmer; one brother, Justin Hoffman of Ashley; a grandmother, Fran Detloff of Calumet City, Ill.; a grandfather, George B. Hoffman Jr. of Avon; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. in Johnson Funeral Home, 612 N. Main St., Hudson. The Rev. Steve Brittenham will officiate.

Calling is Saturday from 1-2 p.m. at the funeral home.

MaryBeth Taylor

KENDALLVILLE — MaryBeth Wagner Taylor, 60, died Monday, May 5, 2003, at her home.

She was a graduate of Kendallville High School. She was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and worked in nursing.

Mrs. Taylor

She was born in Kendallville May 10, 1942, to Arthur and Esther (Reick) Wagner.

Surviving are a daughter, Heidi Taylor of Kendallville; a brother, Robert Wagner of Fort Wayne; a granddaughter, Cassie Taylor of Kendallville; and a son-in-law, Craig Fuller of Kendallville.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Herman Heine officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be one hour before services.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Services Held

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Richard R. "Dick" Conley** were held Friday at 1 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home, Wolcottville. Dale Sturtz officiated. Burial was in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Pallbearers were Dick Craig, John Hutchins, Duane Axel, John Mulholland, Darol Stroman, Troy Weimer, Terry Schmidt, Neal Gaff and Fred Manahan.

Doris Trumbull

LAOTTO — Doris L. Trumbull, 77, died Monday, May 5, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a 1944 graduate of Columbia City High School. She was a member of LaOtto Wesleyan Church and Swan Township Swanettes Home Economics Club. She was a homemaker and former deputy county clerk of Whitley County. She also had served as a legal and police secretary.

Mrs. Trumbull

She enjoyed her church, grandchildren, reading and missions work at the church.

She was born in Columbia City May 2, 1926, to Fred and Grace (Shaffer) Evans.

She married Dwight D. Trumbull Aug. 26, 1951, in Columbia City. He survives in LaOtto. They were married 51 years.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Dean and Brenda Trumbull of Churubusco; a daughter and son-in-law, Darlene and Rexx Guthrie of Pierceton; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Jackson and Betty Evans of Anacortes, Wash., Gail and Martha Evans of Beaver, Pa., and Dick and Janet Evans of Decatur; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Melba and Paul Stidham of Columbia City, and Mae and Clarence Blue of Florida; an aunt, Mary Claxton of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren, Chelsea, Abigail and Eric Trumbull and S. Electra Guthrie; eight nieces; and 10 nephews.

She was preceded in death by one brother, Herbert Evans.

Services will be Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at LaOtto Wesleyan Church, with Pastor Lois Watkins officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

Calling will be today from 4 to 8 p.m. at Orr Funeral Home in Churubusco and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the Gideons.

Richard and Joanne Roberts

KENDALLVILLE — Richard F. Roberts, 87, and his wife Joanne Roberts, 86, former Kendallville residents, recently passed away in Columbus, Texas.

Richard died Sunday, April 20, 2003. Joanne died Monday, April 28, 2003. They were married for over 66 years.

Both were born and raised in Kendallville and graduated together with the Kendallville High School class of 1933. Mr. Roberts was a self-employed photographer.

The couple moved to Dallas, Texas, over 50 years ago and Mr. Roberts continued to work as a photographer and interior designer. After his retirement about six years ago, the couple moved to Columbus.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Carol Roberts of Rio Rancho, N.M., and Peggy Roberts-Ashner and her husband Michael Ashner of San Antonio; a son and daughter-in-law, John and Kay Roberts of Waco; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services were in Columbus.

ALBION NEW ERA
MAY 7 2003

Vernon Abel

ALBION – Vernon Abel, 86, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, in Columbia City.

He was born in Allen County October 3, 1916.

His wife, Pauline Abel, died in 2000.

Surviving are a son and two daughters-in-law, Roger and Carol Abel of Columbia City, and Marilyn Abel of Albion; nine grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding him in death was a son, Larry Abel.

Services were held Saturday, May 3, 2003, at Covington Memorial Funeral Home in Fort Wayne. Burial was at Covington Memorial Gardens.

Memorials are to the American Heart Foundation.

Michael Hohenstein

WOLCOTTVILLE – Michael A. Hohenstein, 48, died Wednesday, April 30, 2003, in Wolcottville.

He enjoyed woodworking and was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Hessen Cassel.

He was born in Fort Wayne to Paul R. and Martha Hohenstein.

Surviving are his wife, Jeanne Hohenstein of Fort Wayne; a son, Mark J. Hohenstein at home; a daughter, Julie A. Hohenstein at home; two brothers, Paul R. Hohenstein, Jr. of Wolcottville, David H. Hohenstein of Avilla; and a sister, Carol S. Hohenstein of Fort Wayne.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Services were held Monday, May 5, 2003, at St. Joseph Hessen Cassel Catholic Church.

Memorials are to Lupus Foundation of America or the Hohenstein Children Education Fund.

David Appleman

ROME CITY – David Patrick Appleman, 44, died Sunday, May 4, 2003, at his home.

He was a production worker at Kraft Foods. He moved to Kendallville from Baltimore 24 years ago. He enjoyed fishing, cooking and doing yardwork.

He was born in Baltimore, MD, May 9, 1958, to Clarence and Betty (Warren) Appleman. His mother, Betty Phillips, survives in Baltimore.

He married Krestina Alleshouse May 8, 1999, at the Church of the Cornerstone in Auburn.

Surviving are a daughter, Misti Appleman of Avilla; a son, Michael David Kelly of Rome City; two stepsons, Chad Childeres of Wolcottville and Dylan Childeres of Rome City; a brother, Jay Appleman of Baltimore; two sisters, Kim Bischoff of Baltimore and Doralynn Bradon of Jacksonville, FL; and his parents-in-law, Paula Ritchie and Lyn Alleshouse, both of Kendallville.

Services were held Wednesday, May 7, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with Pastor H. Dean Woolard of the Church of the Cornerstone officiating.

Memorials are to the family or to the donor's choice.

Mildred Vanderbosch

GARRETT – Mildred Slusher Vanderbosch, 90, died Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

Mrs. Vanderbosch was born in Boston. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Garrett, the Rosary Society, Harvest House and DeKalb County Democrats. She was a volunteer at the former Garrett Hospital.

She married Louis Vanderbosch on September 7, 1929, in Garrett. He preceded her in death.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Jennette Lloyd of Auburn and Ursula and Victor Ley of Avilla; two sons and daughters-in-law, Henry and Judy Vanderbosch of Garrett, and Leonard and Judy Vanderbosch of Colbert, WA; 22 grandchildren, Rusty Lloyd III, Lee Shoudel, Holly Hoffman, Mandy Lloyd, Christine Emerick, Denise Fanger, Michael Ley, James Ley, Laura Rudd, Sharon Kacprowicz, Nancy Reinhardt, Steven Ley, Patrick Ley, Cathy Mettert, Brian Vanderbosch, Mark Vanderbosch, Marcie Collier, Monica Sanders, Michael Vanderbosch, Leonard Vanderbosch, Todd Vanderbosch and Beth Clauss; 39 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three sons, James, Thomas, and David, and two granddaughters.

Services were held Saturday, May 3, 2003, at St. Joseph Catholic Church of Garrett. Burial was in St. Mary Catholic Cemetery in Avilla.

Memorials are to Masses or to the Louis and Mildred Vanderbosch Tuition Aid Trust at St. Joseph School.

ALBION NEW ERA
MAY 2003
7

Mary Lou Norris

ALBION – Mary Lou Norris, 75, died at 8:05 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, 2003, at Oak Leaf Nursing Home, Ligonier.

She lived in the community since 1941. She was the Noble County bookmobile librarian for 16 years. She was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Albion and a member of the Albion High School class of 1945. She enjoyed hummingbirds, reading, gardening and bowling for over 50 years.

She was born in Peru, Indiana August 16, 1927, to Robert and Rubye (Spohn) DuBois.

She married Philip Norris May 2, 1945. He survives in Albion.

Also surviving are two sons, and daughters-in-law, Marc and Jan Norris of Albion, and Scott and Janet Norris of Syracuse; two daughters and a son-in-law, Karen and Duane Dreibelbis of Albion, and Deborah Weidenhamer of Fort Wayne; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and a brother, Harry Bill DuBois.

Services were held Saturday, May 3, 2003, at Mt. Pleasant Lutheran Church in Kendallville, with Pastor Ann Marshall officiating. Burial was in Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to Diabetes research or The American Heart Association.

John Kreider

FORT WAYNE – John "Jack" C. Kreider, 85, died Monday, April 28, 2003, at Applewood Health & Rehabilitation Center in Fort Wayne.

He was a conductor with Amtrak and previously the Pennsylvania Railroad for 39 years, retiring in 1979. He was involved with Masonic Home Lodge, Past Master, Shriners, York Rite and Odd Fellows. He was a member of Forest Park United Methodist Church.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

His wife, Jean E. (Beiersdorfer) Kreider, died in 2002.

Surviving are a daughter, Jacqueline R. Hayward of Fort Wayne; three grandchildren, Denise Y Hayward of Avilla, John F. Hayward of Cincinnati, and Janelle R. Hayward of Fort Wayne; and five great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held at a later date at Lindenwood Cemetery. D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials are to Shriners Children's Hospital.

Mildred Speaker

KIMMELL – Mildred Irene Speaker, 92, died at 12 a.m. Monday, May 5, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

She had been a Kimmell resident since 1925. She was employed by Lyall Electric in Albion for 22 years. She attended Kimmell United Methodist Church and enjoyed playing bingo and working crossword puzzles.

She was born in Potomac, IL, April 23, 1911, to Thomas and Mary Elva (Rogers) Wills.

She married Everette C. Speaker December 14, 1927, in Goshen. He died in 1979.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Everette Jr. and Jean Speaker of Harper Lake, Kimmell; a daughter and son-in-law, Shirley and Alan Moog of Flippin, AR; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

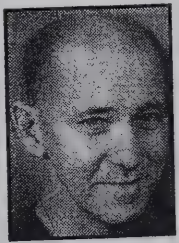
She was preceded in death by a son, Thomas Edward Speaker; a brother, Chester Wills; a half-brother, Clyde Wills; and four half-sisters, Mamie, Ida, Bessie, and Austa.

Services will be Thursday, May 8, 2003, at 11 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, with the Rev. Randy Miller of Kimmell United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Samuel Wiese

LAGRANGE — Samuel Edward "Sam" Wiese, 47, died at 7:50 a.m. Wednesday, May 7, 2003, at his home. He had been ill with cancer for a year.


Mr. Wiese

He had worked at Dutch Homes in LaGrange and Redman Homes in Topeka. He attended Wolcottville Church of God. He moved to the area from Missouri 25 years ago.

He was born in Rolla, Mo., March 16, 1955, to Clarence and Lenora Mae (Shaw) Wiese. Both parents survive in Newburg, Mo.

He married Cynthia Ann "Cindy" Clifton June 28, 1974, in Newburg, Mo. She survives in LaGrange.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Scott and Laura Wiese of Wolcottville; a daughter, Shannon R. Wiese of Wolcottville; and four grandchildren, Kristen Wiese, Tristen Dominguez, Tanner R. Metcalf and Cheyenne Metcalf; a sister, Angel Harvel of Skiatook, Okla.; and three brothers, Henry Wiese of Newburg, Mo., David Wiese of Skiatook, Okla., and Clarence "Spanky" Wise of Newburg; and several nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives.

Services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville, with the Revs. Gene Suffridge and Joel Stanley of Wolcottville Church of God officiating. Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health & Hospice or the American Cancer Society.

Elden Miller

GIBSON CITY, Ill. — Elden F. Miller, 83, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Gibson Area Hospital, Gibson City, Ill.

A Gibson City resident since 1959, he was service manager of Ryder Rental Trucking in Gibson City for many years, retiring in 1982. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and a member of American Legion Post 568 and the Brotherton Keller Veterans of Foreign Wars Post.

He was born July 13, 1919, in Ashley, to Frederick and Katherine (Karst) Miller. He married Alice Wright Jesse on Oct. 23, 1976, in Gibson City, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Michael Miller of Fort Wayne and Kevin Miller of Velma, Okla.; a daughter, Kerin Balyeat of Pleasant Lake; a stepson, Fred Jesse of Bloomington; a stepdaughter, Carolyn Moxley of Gibson City; 16 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; a brother, Frank "Pete" Miller of Ashley; and four sisters, Mary Ferris and Josephine Riddle, both of Florida, and Phyllis Hartman and Betty Smith, both of Angola.

A brother and two sisters preceded him in death.

Graveside services were April 29 at 10:30 a.m. in Drummer Township Cemetery, Gibson City, with the Rev. Joseph Mundakal officiating. Lee Lowery American Legion Post 568, Gibson City, conducted military rites.

Arrangements were handled by Lamb Funeral Home, Gibson City.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Elizabeth Bushong

ALBION — Elizabeth Joan Bushong, 79, died at 6:20 a.m. Wednesday, May 7, 2003, at Hickory Creek Nursing Home in Kendallville.

She was a retired cook for the Friendly Inn and several other area restaurants. She was a lifetime resident of the community.

She was born in Albion Sept. 3, 1923, to Joseph L. and Phyllis (Brumbaugh) Gatwood.

Surviving are three daughters and sons-in-law, Brenda and John Hoover of Albion, Colette and Don Parker of Huntertown and LuAnn and Chuck Spuller of Harbor Springs, Mich.; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one brother, Robert Gatwood.

Private family services will be at a later date at Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 8 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, Albion.

Services Held

The following notice is being reprinted to correct an error from the funeral home.

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Richard R. "Dick" Conley** were held Tuesday at 1 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home, Wolcottville. Dale Sturtz officiated. Burial was in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Pallbearers were Dick Craig, John Hutchins, Duane Axel, John Mulholland, Darol Stroman, Troy Weimer, Terry Schmidt, Neal Gaff and Fred Manahan.

John Schultis

ANGOLA — John P. "Hammer" Schultis, 59, died Thursday, May 8, 2003, at 7 a.m. in St. Joseph Hospital at Fort Wayne.

Mr. Schultis worked for Dana Corp. in Fort Wayne. He was a Vietnam veteran of the U.S. Army. He belonged to American Legion Post 423 in Orland.

He was born Jan. 16, 1944, in Marysville, Ohio, to Earl V. and Florence (Conner) Schultis. They preceded him in death.

He married Amy Yockey on Oct. 8, 1977, in Auburn. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, John P. Schultis Jr. of Auburn; two brothers, James Schultis of Albion and Tom Schultis of Churubusco; two sisters, Margaret Scher of Huntington and Maryann Koons of Spencerville.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 500 E. Seventh St., Auburn. Father Charles Herman will officiate. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery of Auburn with military graveside services by American Legion Post 423 of Orland.

Calling is Sunday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. A rosary service will begin at 8 p.m. Sunday in the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Orland Fire Department or American Legion Post 423 of Orland.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Iva Nierman

FORT WAYNE — Iva J. Nierman, 79, died Wednesday, May 7, 2003, at Beverly Rehabilitation & Specialty Care Center.

She worked in the cafeteria at Lakeside Middle School for 10 years, retiring in 1989. She was a member of Moose Lodge 1480 in New Haven.

She was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are two sons, Robert J. Nierman Jr. and William M. Nierman, both of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Sandra J. Heins of Machensey Park, Ill; seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren; a brother, Franklin C. Lewis of Fort Wayne; and three sisters, Gertrude Lindlag and Darlene Byall, both of Fort Wayne, and Mary Ellen Rempert of Albion.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert J. Nierman Sr. in 1990, and a brother and sister.

Services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, 1320 E. Dupont Road. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens.

Calling will be today from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Ricky Otis

FORT WAYNE — Ricky L. Otis, 46, died Tuesday, May 6, 2003, in Huntertown.

He was a machinist with Flickinger Industries for 24 years and a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

He was born in Fort Wayne to Delbert G. and Regina Otis.

Surviving are two daughters, Katie and Rachel Otis, both of Fort Wayne; his former wife, Diane K. Otis; his mother, Regina Otis of Harker Heights, Texas; eight brothers, Dana R. of Round Rock, Texas, Steven E. of Huntertown, Thomas E. of Killeen, Texas, Kenneth J. of Fort Wayne, Rodney P. of Belton, Texas, Phillip A. of Harker Heights, Charles M. of Columbia City, and Joseph K. of Irmo, S.C.; five sisters, Kathleen "Kit" Curran of Auburn; Sue Ellen Slater of Hudson, Christi L. Jauregui of Fort Wayne, and Carol A. Smith and Mary E. Heckmanm, both of Columbia City; and many other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Mungovan & Sons Memorial Chapel, 2114 S. Calhoun St.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

ALBION NEW ERA
MAY 2003
10

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Mary Beth Wagner Taylor** were held Thursday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Herman Heine officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Bob Wagner, Brian Wagner, Craig Fuller, T.J. Johnson, Craig Nelson and Wes Fuller.

Timothy Bair

KENDALLVILLE — Timothy Robert Bair, 26, died at 3:30 a.m. Friday, May 9, 2003, in a single-vehicle crash on Drake Road west of Kendallville.

He was born Sept. 27, 1976, to Robert R. and Virginia (Perlich) Bair Jr. They survive.

A lifetime resident of Noble County, he was employed as a CAD operator and machinist at Baseline Tool. He enjoyed motorcycles, mud trucks, ATVs and remote control cars. He never married.

Surviving with his parents are a paternal grandmother, Wanda Bair of Rome City; maternal grandparents Clifford and Betty Perlich of Churubusco; and two aunts, Teresa Jones and Nancy Heeren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Brazzell Funeral Home, Avilla, the Rev. James Archambeault officiating. Burial will be in Orange Township Cemetery, Rome City.

Calling is from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Prefered memorials are to Brimfield United Methodist Church.

Bernadette Meyer

AVILLA — Bernadette C. Meyer, 80, died at 10:15 a.m. Friday, May 9, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

She was born Nov. 3, 1922, in Waterloo to George and Marie (Hoff) Shoudel. She married Herman E. Meyer June 28, 1945, in Auburn. He died Oct. 2, 1960.

Mrs. Meyer worked at Creek Chub Bait Co. in Garrett and sold Avon products for more than 50 years. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Avilla, and she enjoyed cooking.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Ann and Thomas Smith of Fort Wayne and Mary Kay and Ed Helmkamp of LaGrange; two sons and a daughter-in-law, David "Sweeney" and Clora Meyer of Avilla and John Meyer of Avilla; five grandchildren, Jennifer Wells, Kimberly Anderson, Brian Meyer, Alan Smith and Steve Smith; a great-grandson, Ryan Patrick Wells; and a sister, Agnes Ball of Auburn.

Preceding her in death in addition to her husband were four brothers, George, Clarance, Adolf "Spike" and Alfred Shoudel; and one sister, Mary Jo Weimer.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla, Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Avilla.

Calling is from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday at Brazzell Funeral Home, Avilla, where a Rosary service will be conducted at 7 p.m. Monday. Additional calling is one hour before the service Tuesday at the church.

Memorials are to Masses or to the Visiting Nurses and Hospice.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 11 Kendallville, Indiana

This obituary is being republished with additional information.

Bernadette Meyer

AVILLA — Bernadette C. Meyer, 80, died at 10:15 a.m. Friday, May 9, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

She was born Nov. 3, 1922, in Waterloo to George and Marie (Hoff) Shoudel. She married Herman E. Meyer June 28, 1945, in Auburn. He died Oct. 2, 1960.

Mrs. Meyer worked at Creek Chub Bait Co. in Garrett and sold Avon products for more than 50 years. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Avilla, and she enjoyed cooking.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Ann and Thomas Smith of Fort Wayne and Mary Kay and Ed Helmkamp of LaGrange; two sons and a daughter-in-law, David "Sweeney" and Clora Meyer of Avilla and John Meyer of Avilla; five grandchildren, Jennifer Wells, Kimberly Anderson, Brian Meyer, Alan Smith and Steve Smith; a great-grandson, Ryan Patrick Wells; and a sister, Agnes Ball of Auburn.

Preceding her in death in addition to her husband were a daughter, Margaret Meyer, who died in 1973; four brothers, George, Clarance, Adolf "Spike" and Alfred Shoudel; and one sister, Mary Jo Weimer.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla, Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Avilla.

Calling is from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday at Brazzell Funeral Home, Avilla, where a Rosary service will be conducted at 7 p.m. Monday.

Additional calling is one hour before the service Tuesday at the church.

Memorials are to Masses or to the Visiting Nurses and Hospice.

J. Emory Heitz

GARRETT — J. Emory Heitz, 94, died Saturday, May 10, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor Nursing Home in Garrett.

A 92-year resident of the Garrett area, Mr. Heitz was a farmer from 1940 to 1960, then became a custodian for Garrett-Keyser-Butler Schools until he retired in 1985.

He was a member of the Garrett Masonic Lodge, the Scottish Rite, and Altarstar United Methodist Church in rural Garrett. He was a ham radio operator.

He was born July 12, 1908, in Garrett to Joseph and Oma (Strouse) Heitz.

He married Eunice M. Flory on April 17, 1942, in Garrett. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Kenneth Heitz of Garrett and John Heitz of Kendallville; a daughter, Sharon Heitz of New Haven; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Amber Clark.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett. The Rev. Keith D. Davis will officiate. Burial will be in Cedar Creek Cemetery in rural Garrett.

Calling is from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home, with a Masonic service at 7 p.m.

Memorials are to Altarstar United Methodist Church.

Condolences may be sent to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Harvey Kauffman

TOPEKA — Harvey A. Kauffman, 83, died Saturday, May 10, 2003, at 6:50 a.m. at his residence.

A resident of LaGrange County for more than 50 years, Mr. Kauffman worked as a carpenter until his retirement in 1995. He was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

He was born May 23, 1919, in Arthur, Ill., to Alfred and Clara (Miller) Kauffman.

He married Fannie Plank on Dec. 19, 1940. She survives.

Also surviving are five sons and daughters-in-law, Marvin and Lizzie Kauffman of Millersburg, Alfred and Katie Kauffman of Middlebury, Harvey Jr. and Fern Kauffman of Middlebury, Ira and Patty Kauffman of Goshen and Steve and Wilma Kauffman of Shipshewana; two daughters and sons-in-law, Mary and Daniel Bontrager of Topeka and Katie and John Eash of Topeka; three brothers, Steve Kauffman of Arthur, Ill., Dave Kauffman of Ignatius, Mont., and Joe Kauffman of Goshen; one sister, Katie Plank of Goshen; 34 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were an infant daughter, Barbara; one son, Joni; his parents and four brothers, Menno, George, Jacob and Ben.

Services will be Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. in the John Eash residence, 228A Nature Trail, Topeka. Officiating will be Bishop Samuel Hershberger and Home Ministers. Burial will be at Hawpatch Cemetery in Topeka.

Calling is after 2 p.m. today and all day Monday at the John Eash residence.

Pallbearers will be Steve Kauffman, John Kauffman, Steve Bontrager and Kevin Eash.

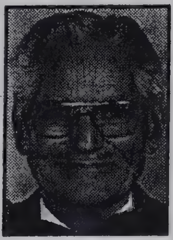
Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home of Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 11
Kendallville, Indiana

Active Mason held state office

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

WATERLOO — When Masonic services were held at the Feller Funeral Home for past state Most Illustrious Grand Master Charles Rhodehamel on April 30, 58 Masons from all over Indiana were in attendance.


Mr. Rhodehamel

"They said they had never had so many Masons at a service like that," said Mr. Rhodehamel's wife of 50 years, Joan.

"That part of his life was very important to him," she said of his Masonic activities. "It was a way for him to stay busy after retirement, and he made a lot of friends."

Mr. Rhodehamel retired in 1996 from the DeKalb Central school district with 21 years of service. He was head of maintenance for nine school facilities.

He died April 26, after a very brief battle with cancer.

A list of his memberships reported at the time of his death was lengthy, and included Garrett City Lodge 537 F&AM, Auburn-Garrett York Rite, Fort Wayne York Rite Bodies, York Rite College 55, Angola Yeoman of York, Ish Sodi Council 1855 PMIGM, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Wayne 32nd Degree and Mispah Temple of Fort Wayne.

He was also a member and past elder of the Auburn Church of Christ, a past member of the Garrett and Waterloo fire departments, American Legion Post 97 of Auburn, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Tall Cedars of Lebanon Northwest Forest 187, and the Ashley Order of Eastern Star 229.

"He was a worthy patron eight times, before Garrett OES was joined with Ashley," Mrs. Rhodehamel said.

A lot of travel was involved with state offices, and Mrs. Rhodehamel said she traveled quite a bit with her husband. He also found time to play golf, though "not too much in the last few years," she said.

"He loved his grandkids a lot, and since we had just one daughter (Beth Moughler of Waterloo), he was very close to her," she added.

A veteran of the Korean War, Mr. Rhodehamel was honored with military graveside services by the American Legion.

"He went into the Air Force in '48 and got extended by Mr. Truman," his wife recalled, referring to then-President Harry S. Truman.

An aircraft electrician, Mr. Rhodehamel left the service in 1952 and started his married life.

Robert Knott

LAOTTO — Robert John Knott, 89, of rural LaOtto, died Saturday, May 10, 2003, at 1:26 p.m. at Miller's Merry Manor Nursing Home in Garrett.

Mr. Knott, who had resided in LaOtto for 89 years, worked as a farmer and fuel truck driver for S & S Oil Co. He was a member of the Cedar Creek Church of the Brethren in rural Garrett.

He was born Aug. 23, 1913, in Auburn to Fred and Cora Estella (Heitz) Knott.

He married Eloise L. Hogue on Dec. 24, 1936, in Garrett. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Fred Knott of LaOtto, Jim and Jackie Knott of Garrett, Bill and Arlene Knott of LaOtto; one daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Stuart Harshman of Garrett; eight grandchildren and 14 great-granchildren; three nephews, Bob (and wife Jean) Bauman of Waterloo, Dick Wildeson of LaOtto and John Wildeson of Naperville, Ill., and one niece and her husband, Barbara and Tony Klies of Conway, Ark.

Preceding him in death were his parents and three sisters, Frieda Knott, Wilma Wildeson and Opal Bauman.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett. Pastor Brad Hardesty will officiate. Burial will be Monday at Cedar Creek Cemetery in rural Garrett.

Calling is Monday from noon to 1 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Cedar Creek Church of the Brethren.

Condolences may be sent to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
11

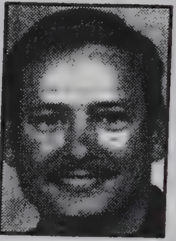
Ratliff relentless in friendship, commitments

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — Roger D. Ratliff, 31, was snatched away in an auto accident April 26, and his friends are still reeling from the loss.

"Rog was the kind of person that was easy to get to know," said his pastor and friend, Chris Mosley of Grace Christian Church. "Even if you'd only known him for five minutes, Roger would treat you like he'd known you all his life."

Before letting a new friend get away, he would begin asking about their family, their work and whether or not they went to church. His method didn't seem to put people off, said Mosley. They warmed to his sincere approach.


Mr. Ratliff

Besides spending hours in preparation for youth and adult Bible studies and sermons, Mr. Ratliff worked as pole vaulting coach with Gary Ort at East Noble High School.

"He was a huge influence. He had a lot of character and drive. We will definitely miss him around here," said Ort.

Roger did a lot of electrical work, both at the church and for friends — besides holding down a full-time job at T.I. Automotive in Ashley.

"The first time he came to the church was for a Friday night Bible study, and the next Friday he was (back at the church) working on the wiring for new ceiling lights," said Mosley.

"He couldn't let anything beat him," said Mosley. "Even if a project took 16 hours to complete, Roger would stay until it was done."

Roger was devoted to his wife, Sara, and their three children, and, rather than sacrifice family time for the church, he often brought them along to help out, said Mosley.

Roger deliberately sought out the newest Christian r
groups to help bridge the
between the church and a
youth.

Even if the group's musi
appearance seemed biza
he'd listen for the posit
message of Christ and tried
turn the kids on to it, s
Mosley.

"I can't question God," s
Mosley of the loss, "
already, his death has ma
some young guys think
Several young men who h
been satisfied with
"stalemate" in their Christia
lives are now coming back
church and really getting
fire for the Lord, said Mosle
That's what Roger wanted a
along.

Schultis was proud veteran and Legion member

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

LAKE GAGE — Jack Schultis was proud of many things in his life — his family, his career accomplishments, and his service to his country.

"He was very proud of being a veteran and his association with the (American) Legion," said Mr. Schultis' wife, Amy.

John P. "Hammer" Schultis, 59, died Thursday, May 8, 2003, at 7 a.m. at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

"He got his nickname when he was driving truck," Amy explained. "It came from the term 'putting the hammer down.'"

He had been ill for almost 10 weeks, and succumbed to heart disease.

"John was relatively easy-going, but sensitive," said Mr. Schultis' sister, Maryann Koons. "He liked to keep a low profile."

Mr. Schultis

Maryann is a year-and-a-half younger than her brother, and said they had a close sibling relationship.

"I was always his little sister, and he had that typical 'she's-a-pain-in-the-butt' atti-tude," she said. "But he was always there for me, always there in the shadows."

Mr. Schultis worked for Dana Corp. in Fort Wayne. He was a Vietnam veteran of the U.S. Army. He belonged to American Legion Post 423 in Orland.

"He was there at the Legion pretty much every day," Amy said.

"It was very close to his heart. There are so many good and friendly people there, and he just loved it."

The Schultises came to Lake Gage 12 years ago after Jack suffered a brain aneurysm and was forced to stop working.

"We had the place at Lake Gage and were planning
retire there," Amy said. "Bu
after he had the aneurysm, w
just moved here. That's whe
he started going to the Legion
People were so nice. The
accepted us like we'd lived her
all of our lives right from th
get-go."

Mr. Schultis was born Jan. 16, 1944, in Marysville, Ohio, to Earl V. and Florence (Conner) Schultis. He married Amy on Oct. 8, 1977, in Auburn.

Also surviving are a son, John P. Schultis Jr. of Auburn; two brothers, James Schultis of Albion and Tom Schultis of Churubusco; and another sister, Margaret Scher of Huntington.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 11
Kendallville, Indiana

Susan Holmes

AUBURN — Susan Holmes, 79, died Saturday, May 10, 2003, at Peabody Retirement in North Manchester.

Mrs. Holmes worked as a cafeteria manager at McKenney-Harrison School.

She was a member of the Waterloo Veterans of Foreign Wars Women's Auxiliary.

She was born Dec. 31, 1923, in Auburn to Charles and Lydia (Searfoss) Daub.

She married Robert R. Holmes on Oct. 18, 1945. He died Jan. 18, 2003.

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, Larry and Shirley Holmes of Laketon; one daughter, Linda Sue Holmes McCoy of Sparks, Nev.; four grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death, in addition to her husband, were four brothers, two sisters, one grandson and her parents.

No services or calling are scheduled. Feller Funeral Home of Waterloo is in charge of arrangements.

The following obituary is being rerun to provide additional information.

Mark Crain

FREMONT — Mark M. Crain, 84, died Thursday, May 8, 2003.

He was born Feb. 28, 1919, in Steuben County to Theodore M. and Vera (Graun) Crain. His first wife, Phyllis Ruth Crain, died Dec. 20, 1988. He married Retha Coggeshall Sept. 29, 1989. She survives.

Mr. Crain was a retired farmer, having his own farm for 60 years. He retired from Metal Spinners in 1998, where he had worked 14 years.

Surviving with his wife are three sons, Mark Crain of Bloomington, Ted Crain of Bixby, Okla., and Alan Crain of Livonia, Mich.; two daughters, Ruth Holtzman of Fort Wayne and Roberta Osborne of Fremont; four stepsons, Glenn Kessler of Auburn, Tony and Jeffery Thrush of Orland, and Dewayne Thrush of Munith, Mich.; a stepdaughter, Kay Roose of Fort Wayne; four sisters, Virginia Persman and Mary Lou Bailey, both of El Paso, Texas, Julia Dixon of Fort Wayne, and Phyllis Kaiser of Huntertown; 13 grandchildren; nine stepgrandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and nine stepgreat-grandchildren.

In addition to his first wife, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Robert, Thomas and William Crain, and two sisters, Jean Bieber and Connie Bugbee.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, Pastor Jim Hulbert officiating. Burial will be in Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola.

Calling is from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are to donor's choice.

Jack Dudley

LEBANON — Jack A. Dudley, 45, died Thursday, May 8, 2003, at his home.

He was a respiratory therapist for over 20 years in California and Indiana before retiring for health reasons. He enjoyed bowling, hiking, camping, canoeing and singing. He was a member of Demilay of Zionsville. He was a 1975 graduate of Zionsville High School and a veteran of the U.S. Marines, serving from 1977 to 1981.

He was born in Paw Paw, Mich., July 30, 1957, to Norval J. and Florence (Linde) Dudley.

Surviving are his father and stepmother, Norval J. and Joyce (Mentrup) Dudley of Bloomington; his mother, Florence Dudley of Brownsburg; two daughters, Joy Dudley of Avilla and Jamie Dudley of Kendallville; one grandchild; two sisters, Donna Droll of Indianapolis and Bonny Copeland of Murfreesboro, Tenn.; two brothers, Fred Dudley of Brownsburg and Larry Dudley of Indianapolis; and a stepsister, Amy Roudebush of Bloomington.

Services will be today at 2 p.m. at Russell & Hitch Funeral Home in Lebanon.

Calling will begin at 11 a.m.

Memorials are to his children, in care of the funeral home.

Calvin Owen

KENDALLVILLE — Calvin "Cal" B. Owen, 76, died at 6:20 a.m. Sunday, May 11, 2003, at his home. He had been ill since December 2002.

He was a lifelong Kendallville area resident. He was a self-employed painting contractor and had worked for Sears for 10 years, retiring in 1985. He was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and the Kendallville Elks. He was an avid golfer.

Mr. Owen

He was born in Green Township April 23, 1927, to Forrest and Verna (Kimmel) Owen.

He married Dorothy Kline July 3, 1948, in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Mitzi and Tom Becker and Linda and Dave Cimini, all of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren, Lisa Schwarz, Stephanie Parks, Brett Becker and Angela Frederick; nine great-grandchildren; two sisters, Dorothy Van Gorder of Fort Wayne and Daisy Edwards of Avilla; and one brother, Ray Allen Owen of Fort Wayne.

One sister and five brothers preceded him in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Paul B. Griebel officiating. Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the church.

Harriett Jessup

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Ind. — Harriett L. Jessup, 81, died Wednesday, May 7, 2003, at Hancock Memorial Hospital in Greenfield.

She was a homemaker and had worked at Eli Lilly in Greenfield. She was a member of the Charlottesville Friends Church and the Charlottesville Bunco Club.

She was born in Spiceland Dec. 17, 1921, to Russell and Eva (Murphy) Reece.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Dianna and Steve Lewis of Greenfield and Linda and Rick Bass of St. Peters, Mo.; eight grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one brother, Ralph "Gene" Ramsay of Kendallville; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Russell Jessup, who died in 1976; two sisters, Helen Sharp and Lenora Kline; one son, Gary Jessup; and her stepfather, Ralph E. Ramsay Sr.

Services were Monday at Condo & Son Funeral Home, with Pastor Fred Powers officiating. Burial was at Glen Cove Cemetery in Knightstown.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Kathryn Kline

SYRACUSE — Kathryn L. Kline, 86, of South Bend, died Friday, May 9, 2003, at Hospice House of St. Joseph County.

She was a homemaker and retired from Syracuse Rubber Co. after more than 25 years of service. She attended Calvary United Methodist Church in Syracuse.

She was born in North Webster March 14, 1917, to Ray and Nora (Mock) Firestone.

Surviving are a daughter, Judith K. Smith of Syracuse; a son, Philip D. Kline of South Bend; two grandchildren, Barbara Koenig and Duane Vultaggio, both of Indianapolis; one stepgrandson, Justin Smith of Wawaka; three great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Velma Biltz of Warsaw and Mona Byrd of Syracuse.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Duane Kline, who died in 1972; one brother; and one sister.

Services were today at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel, Syracuse. Burial was at Syracuse Cemetery.

Services Held

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Samuel E. "Sam" Wiese** were held Saturday at 1 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Revs. Gene Suffridge and Joel Stanley officiating. Burial was at Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Pallbearers were David Wiese, Spanky Wiese, Scott Wiese, Josh Wiese, Jeremy Wiese, Shannon Wiese, Angel Harvel, Ty Metcalf and Brad Yoder.

Janet Peterson

PALESTINE, Texas — Janet Viola Peterson, 82, died Friday, May 9, 2003, at Palestine Nursing Home.

She was a homemaker and member of Topeka Mennonite Church in Topeka, Ind. She had lived in Palestine since 1985.

She was born in Marion, Ind., Feb. 25, 1921, to William Owen and Cleo (Booher) Compton.

She was married to Ernest Ray Peterson. He survives in Palestine.

Also surviving are a son, Benjamin W. Peterson of Palestine; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; two sisters, Juanita Knipp of Fort Wayne and Norma Couch of Gas City.

Services and calling were held in Texas. Graveside services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at Eden Cemetery, Topeka. Family and friends will gather at 1:15 p.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, to form a procession to the cemetery.

Herrington/Land of Memory was in charge of arrangements in Texas. Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, is in charge of local arrangements.

Adah Maney

LAGRANGE — Adah Maney, 103, died at 2:40 a.m. Sunday, May 11, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

She was a homemaker and a member of American Legion Post 47 Ladies Auxiliary in Fort Wayne for 59 years. She lived in Fort Wayne from 1917 to 1953, then lived on Adams Lake, Wolcottville, from 1953 to 1997.

Mrs. Maney

She was born in Paulding County, Ohio, Jan. 19, 1900, to George and Emma Louise (Leser) Wilson.

She married Gayle H. Maney Sept. 6, 1917, in Lima, Ohio. He died in December 1989.

Surviving are two nephews, John Maney and his wife, Margaret, of Van Wert, Ohio, and Kevin Maney of Columbus, Ohio; two great-nephews, Robert Hills of Pittsford, Mich., and Leonard Shibley of Ossian; one niece, Doris Davis of Hudson, Mich.; and one great-niece, Leolone Loyd of Antwerp, Ohio.

Preceding her in death were six sisters, three brothers and one great-nephew.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, with the Revs. Gary Stees and Richard Fredrick officiating. Burial will be at Woodland Union Cemetery, Van Wert.

Calling will be Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church.

Loren Miller

TOPEKA — Loren Ray Miller died at 12:45 a.m. today, May 14, 2003, following complications at birth at New Eden Care Center, Topeka.

Surviving are his parents, Davie V. and Lorene P. (Schrock) Miller of Topeka; two brothers, Lamar Dean Miller and twin Larry Jay Miller, at home; and a sister, Loretta Sue Miller, at home; paternal grandparents, Vernon H. and Mary Alice Miller of Topeka; maternal grandparents, Perry L. and Wilma Schrock of Topeka; paternal great-grandfather Ezra Miller of Millersburg; paternal great-grandmother Elizabeth Miller of Topeka; maternal great-grandmother Mattie Raber of Topeka; and maternal great-grandmother Mary Schrock of Shipshewana.

Graveside services will be Friday at 1 p.m. at Clearspring Cemetery, Topeka, with Bishop Elroy Miller officiating.

There is no calling.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, is in charge of arrangements.

ALBION NEW ERA
MAY 14 2003

John Schultis

ANGOLA – John P. "Hammer" Schultis, 59, died Thursday, May 8, 2003, at 7 a.m. in St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr Schultis worked for Dana Corp. in Fort Wayne. He was a Vietnam veteran of the U.S. Army. He belonged to American Legion Post 423 in Orland.

He was born January 16, 1944, in Marysville, Ohio, to Earl V. and Florence (Conner) Schultis. They preceded him in death.

He married Amy Yockey on October 8, 1977, in Auburn. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, John P. Schultis, Jr. of Auburn; two brothers, James Schultis of Albion and Tom Schultis of Churubusco; two sisters, Margaret Scher of Huntington and Maryann Koons of Spencerville.

Services were held Monday, May 12, 2003 in the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of Auburn. Father Charles Herman officiated. Burial was in Catholic Cemetery of Auburn with military graveside services by American Legion Post 423 of Orland.

Memorials are to the Orland Fire Department or American Legion Post 423 of Orland.

Kathryn L. Kline

SOUTH BEND – Kathryn L. Kline, 86, died Friday, May 9, 2003, at Hospice House of St. Joseph County.

She was born March 14, 1917, in North Webster to Ray and Nora (Mock) Firestone.

She was a homemaker and retired from Syracuse Rubber Co. after 25+ years. She attended Calvay U.M.C. in Syracuse.

Surviving are one daughter, Judith K. Smith of Syracuse; one son, Philip D. Kline of South Bend; two grandchildren, Barbara Koenig and Duane Vultaggio, both of Indianapolis; one step-grandson, Justin Smith of Wawaka; three great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Velma Biltz of Warsaw and Mona Byrd of Syracuse.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Duane Kline (1972), one brother and one sister.

Services were held Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel, Syracuse. Burial was at the Syracuse Cemetery.

Bernadette Meyer

AVILLA – Bernadette C. Meyer, 80, died at 10.15 a.m. Friday, May 9, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

She was born November 3, 1922, in Waterloo to George and Marie (Hoff) Shoudel. She married Herman E. Meyer June 28, 1945, in Auburn. He died October 2, 1960.

Mrs. Meyer worked at Creek Chub Bait Co. in Garrett and sold Avon products for more than 50 years. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Avilla, and she enjoyed cooking.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Ann and Thomas Smith of Fort Wayne and Mary Kay and Ed Helmkamp of LaGrange; two sons and a daughter-in-law, David "Sweeney" and Clora Meyer of Avilla and John Meyer of Avilla; five grandchildren, Jennifer Wells, Kimberly Anderson, Brian Meyer, Alan Smith and Steve Smith; a great-grandson, Ryan Patrick Wells; and a sister, Agnes Ball of Auburn.

Preceding her in death in addition to her husband were four brothers, George, Clarance, Adolf "Spike" and Alfred Shoudel; and one sister, Mary Jo Weimer.

Services were held Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla, Father Daniel Durkin, officiating. Burial was in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Avilla.

Memorials are to Masses or to the Visiting Nurses and Hospice.

ALBION NEW ERA
MAY 2003
14

Calvin Owen

KENDALLVILLE – Calvin "Cal" B. Owen, 76, died at 6:20 a.m. Sunday, May 11, 2003, at his home. He had been ill since December 2002.

He was a lifelong Kendallville area resident. He was a self-employed painting contractor and had worked for Sears for 10 years, retiring in 1985. He was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and the Kendallville Elks. He was an avid golfer.

He was born in Green Township April 23, 1927, to Forrest and Verna (Kimmel) Owen.

He married Dorothy Kline July 3, 1948, in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Mitzi and Tom Becker and Linda and Dave Cimini, all of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren, Lisa Schwarz, Stephanie Parks, Brett Becker and Angela Frederick; nine great-grandchildren; two sisters, Dorothy Van Gorder of Fort Wayne and Daisy Edwards of Avilla; and one brother, Ray Allen Owen of Fort Wayne.

One sister and five brothers preceded him in death.

Services were held Wednesday, May 14, 2003, at St John Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Paul B. Griebel officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Memorials are to the church.

Jack Dudley

LEBANON – Jack A. Dudley, 45, died Thursday, May 8, 2003, at his home.

He was a respiratory therapist for over 20 years in California and Indiana before retiring for health reasons. He enjoyed bowling, hiking, camping, canoeing and singing. He was a member of Demilay of Zionsville. He was a 1975 graduate of Zionsville High School and a veteran of the U.S. Marines, serving from 1977 to 1981.

He was born in Paw Paw, MI, July 30, 1957, to Norval J. and Florence (Linde) Dudley.

Surviving are his father and stepmother, Norval J. and Joyce (Mentrup) Dudley of Bloomington; his mother, Florence Dudley of Brownsburg; two daughters Joy Dudley of Avilla and Jamie Dudley of Kendallville; one grandchild; two sisters, Donna Droll of Indianapolis and Bonny Copeland of Murfreesboro, TN; two brothers, Fred Dudley of Brownsburg and Larry Dudley of Indianapolis; and a stepsister, Amy Roudebush of Bloomington.

Services were held Monday, May 12, 2003, at Russell & Hitch Funeral Home in Lebanon.

Memorials are to his children in care of the funeral home.

Elizabeth J. Bushong

ALBION – Elizabeth Joan Bushong, 79, of Albion, died Wednesday, May 7, 2003, at Hickory Creek Nursing Home in Kendallville.

Born September 3, 1923, in Albion, she was a retired cook for the Friendly Inn and severa

other area restaurants.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Brenda (John) Hoover of Albion, Mrs. Colette (Don) Parker of Huntertown, Mrs. LuAnn (Chuck) Spuller of Harbor Springs, Mich.; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Gatwood and parents, Joseph L. and Phyllis (Brumbaugh) Gatwood.

Private family services were held at Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion. Memorials to Relay for Life Noble County, Ronald McDonald House of Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Alice Hipsher

FORT WAYNE — Alice L. Hipsher, 72, died Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

She was a homemaker and member of the Apostolic Jesus Name Church.

She was born in Fort Wayne May 12, 1931.

Surviving are a son, Rick E. Hipsher of Zanesville; three daughters, Alice R. Van, Ruth A. Hipsher and Vicki J. Duncan, all of Fort Wayne; seven foster children, Diane Kendall of North Carolina, Brenda Maxfield of Kendallville, Bill Fagan of Yoder and David and Elaine Wirt of Fort Wayne; a sister, Delores Schultz of Kingman, Ariz.; 25 grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Clark E. Hipsher, who died Oct. 4, 2001.

Services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Home for Funerals. Burial will be at Lindenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 5 to 8 p.m. and one hour before services.

Memorials are to Southern Care Hospice or Apostolic Jesus Name Church.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Calvin B. "Cal" Owen** were held Wednesday at 1 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Paul B. Griebel officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Dave Cimini, Tom Becker, Brett Becker, Patrick Frederick, Kevin Parks and Bob Schwarz.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Madie Gibson

LEXINGTON, N.C. — Madie Caudill Gibson, 79, of Lexington died Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at Mt. Vista Health Park, Denton, N.C.

The former Ligonier resident was born in Knott County, Ky., on Feb. 20, 1924, to Jasper and Lula (Short) Caudill. She married Brownlow Gibson and he preceded her in death.

She was a homemaker.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Willie and Alma Gibson of Ligonier, and Dewey and Sue Gibson of Lexington; four brothers, Oliver Caudill of Lexington, Gardner Caudill of Michigan, Delmar Caudill of Tennessee, and Devo Caudill of Marion; two sisters, Lila Slone of Crelo, Ohio, and Helen Amburgey of Marion; three grandchildren, Ronnie, Jason and Jennifer; and one great-grandchild, Alex.

Two brothers, Ivan and Chester Caudill; a sister, Mazie Hall, and her parents also preceded her in death.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Ball Branch Old Regular Baptist Church, Mousie, Ky., with Old Regular Baptist ministers officiating. Burial will be in Haven of Rest Cemetery, Mayking, Ky.

Calling begins at 2 p.m. today at the church.

Nelson Frazier Funeral Home, Martin, Ky., is in charge of arrangements.

This obituary is being reprinted to correct information provided by the funeral home.

Loren Miller

TOPEKA — Loren Ray Miller died shortly after birth at 12:45 a.m. Wednesday, May 14, 2003, at New Eden Care Center, Topeka, from natural causes.

Surviving are his parents, Davie V. and Lorene P. (Schrock) Miller of Topeka; two brothers, Lamar Dean Miller and twin Larry Jay Miller, at home; and a sister, Loretta Sue Miller, at home; paternal grandparents, Vernon H. and Mary Alice Miller of Topeka; maternal grandparents, Perry L. and Wilma Schrock of Topeka; paternal great-grandfather Ezra Miller of Millersburg; paternal great-grandmother Elizabeth Miller of Topeka; maternal great-grandmother Mattie Raber of Topeka; and maternal great-grandmother Mary Schrock of Shipshewana.

Graveside services will be today at 1 p.m. at Clearspring Cemetery, Topeka, with Bishop Elroy Miller officiating.

There is no calling.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, is in charge of arrangements.

Robert Heurick

KENDALLVILLE — Robert Heurick, 44, of Kendallville, died Thursday, May 15, 2003, at his residence in Fort Wayne.

Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville.

Chester Mountz

KENDALLVILLE — Chester L. Mountz, 75, of Kendallville, died at 1:43 p.m. Thursday, May 15, 2003, in Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

Services are pending at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, Kendallville.

THE NEWS SUN

MAY Kendallville, Indiana

17

Stanley Combs

LAGRANGE — Stanley L. Combs, 72, of LaGrange, died Thursday, May 15, 2003, in his home.

Mr. Combs was the retired owner and plumber of LaGrange Plumbing and Heating for 25 years. A lifetime resident of LaGrange, he was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War and a member of VFW Post 1355 of Sturgis, Mich.

He was born on Oct. 29, 1930, to Lona and Gladys (McNier) Combs in LaGrange. They preceded him in death.

He married Beverly L. (Hall) Combs on July 5, 1952 in LaPaz. She survives.

Surviving are two daughters and one son-in-law, Pamela and John McKee of Middlebury and Judy Combs of Irving, Texas; a son, Jack Combs of LaGrange; two sisters, Roberta Saddison of Satsuma, Fla, and Barbara Diehl of LaGrange; a brother, Dale Combs of Kendallville; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Julie Combs, in 1958, and a brother, Gail Combs, in 1996.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at the First Church of God in LaGrange with the Rev. Brian VanOsdol officiating.

Calling is 2-5 p.m. Sunday at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange.

Memorials are to the First Church of God or Parkview Home Health & Hospice.

Russel Freeman

AVILLA — Russel E. Freeman, 73, died Friday, May 16, 2003, in his Avilla Home.

Mr. Freeman was a farmer and worked as a bartender at the St. James Restaurant in Avilla. He also worked at Myer's Farm Equipment and was a World War II Army Veteran.

He was born on Sept. 9, 1929, in Avilla to George W. and Orpha (Gump) Freeman. They preceded him in death.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, George W. and Janet Freeman of Wolcottville; three daughters and sons-in-law, Karen and Jeff Greenfield of Auburn, Sharon and Wendell Wolfe of Auburn and Judy and Ed Delagrange of Hicksville, Ohio; four sisters, Evelyn Blotkamp of Avilla, Marjorie Miller of Garrett, Martha Blomeke of Garrett and Hilda Bergstrom of Auburn; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a 2-year-old grandson and four brothers, Floyd Freeman, Bill Freeman, Melvin Freeman and Bob Freeman.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Thomas Funeral Home in Garrett. Chaplain Paul Marki will officiate.

Calling is 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Embrey Cemetery in Garrett.

Condolences may be e-mailed to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Chester Mountz

KENDALLVILLE — Chester L. "Chet" Mountz, 75, of Kendallville, died Thursday, May 15, 2003, at 1:43 p.m. in the Parkview Noble Hospital emergency room in Kendallville.

Mr. Mountz retired in 1991 from Flint & Walling, Kendallville, and has been working for Mittler Supply. He was a member of American Legion Post 86, a Navy veteran of World War II and an avid Chicago White Sox fan.

He was born May 21, 1927, in Garrett to Chester [illegible] and Alvina (Rickey) Mountz.

On April 22, 1967, he married Ruth Swander in Angola. She survives.

Also surviving are four daughters, Kristi Hauenstein of Elkhart, Vicki Mountz of Angola, and Judy Keys and Nancy Zion, both of Auburn; three stepsons, Gary McDonald of Rome City, Michael McDonald of Shipshewana and Terry McDonald of Kendallville; and several grand children and great-grandchildren.

Six brothers and sisters preceded him in death.

Services are today at 2 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home. The Rev. Kevin Sneed of Kendallville Church of the Nazarene will officiate.

Calling is from 1-2 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery in Garrett.

Robert Heurich

FORT WAYNE — Robert G. "Bob" Heurich, 44, died Thursday, May 15, 2003, at his residence in Fort Wayne after three months of illness.

Mr. Heurick was a graduate of Groveport High School in 1976, Ohio State University in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in geology, and Xavier University in 1996 with a master's degree in business administration. He was employed with American Electric Power in Columbus, Ohio, for 15 years as an electrical technician. He attended First Church of God in Kendallville and enjoyed giving tennis lessons to youngsters through a club in Columbus, Ohio, called "Tennis Tots."

He was born in Groveport, Ohio, on June 6, 1958, to John and Margot (Geiger) Heurich. His father survives in Columbus, Ohio and his mother is deceased.

He married Judy Kay Struck on May 13, 1995, in Columbus, Ohio. She survives in Fort Wayne.

Also surviving are a stepson, Leon Hartwig III of Kirkland, Wash; a stepdaughter and stepson-in-law, Nicole and Kurt Muenchow of Minot, N.D.; a granddaughter, Abby Muenchow of Minot, N.D.; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Rita and Larry Welsh of Powell, Ohio, and Angie and Brian Williamson of Houston, Texas; and three nephews and a niece.

An infant brother, Tommy Heurich, and his stepmother, Helene Heurich, preceded him in death.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at the First Church of God in Kendallville. the Rev. Jim Kane will officiate.

Calling is Sunday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

There will be no graveside services.

Services will be followed by a dinner at the church.

Memorials to Cancer Services of Fort Wayne, Visiting Nurse Service and Hospice of Northeast Indiana and the First Church of God in Kendallville.

Condolences can be sent at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Albert Hickey

LAGRANGE — Albert A. Hickey, 80, of LaGrange, died May 16, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

Mr. Hickey lived in and around Meade, Kan., during his childhood and young adult life. He graduated from Meade High School in 1940 and served in the U.S. Navy in World War II. He enlisted on July 29, 1942, and was honorably discharged on Feb. 6, 1946, attaining the rank of Petty Officer Second Class. He was stationed at Pensacola, Fla., for a short time before going to Pearl Harbor as an aviation mechanic for the remainder of his enlistment.

After returning from service in 1946 he went to work for the Flecture Implement Co. as a mechanic. Following his marriage in 1947, he moved to Collinsville, Ill., and worked for the Nestles Co. as a maintenance welder until 1949 when he moved back to Meade, Kan. He then went to work for the Michigan-Wisconsin Pipe Line Co. as a mechanic/welder. In 1956, when the company changed to American Louisiana Pipe Line Co., he transferred to LaGrange, becoming superintendent. He also held the position of division manager in Muncie and area manager in Monroe, La., before retiring in 1983. After his retirement, he moved back to LaGrange. He had been a resident of Life Care Center of LaGrange for the past two years.

He was born June 24, 1922, in Missler, Kan., to Noal R. and Ida Mae (Fahrenwald) Hickey. They preceded him in death.

He married Barbara Bassett in Liberal, Kan., in 1947 and divorced in 1995.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Steven and Patricia Hickey of LaGrange; a daughter and son-in-law, Ronald and Nancy McKinley of Bronson, Mich.; one sister and brother-in-law, Hazel and Theodore Winter of Meade, Kan.; several nieces and nephews, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be Monday at 1 p.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange.

Calling will be Sunday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery in LaGrange.

Services Held

AVILLA — Services were held Monday for **Timothy Robert Bair** at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla with the Rev. James Archambeault officiating.

Pallbearers were Jason Laughlin, Joel Streich, Matt Geisel, Curst Parker, Ritchie Albaugh, Les Smith, Jason Craig and Ben and Weston Heeren. Burial was at Orange Township Cemetery near Rome City.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
18

Eugene Diederich

AUBURN — Eugene H. Diederich, 74, of Auburn, died Saturday, May 17, 2003, at home.

Mr. Diederich

On May 3, 1929, in Garrett, he was born to Herman C. and Selma (Grischke) Diederich. He married Norma J. Musser on Nov. 11, 1949, in Auburn. She survives.

He was a machinist at Warner Gear in Auburn for 36 years and a DeKalb County farmer.

Mr. Diederich graduated from St. Joe High School in 1947, belonged to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne and was an avid New York Yankees fan.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Cary Diederich and Roger and Holly Diederich, all of Auburn; two daughters and sons-in-law, Shelley and Steve Desper of Wabash, and Susan and Robert Heredia of Auburn; two sisters, Cordelia May of Waterloo, and Joan Swift of Hamilton; six grandchildren, Amy and Jason Morton, Carrie Wagner, Adam and Kelly Desper, and Kyla and Jerad Cole; three great-grandchildren, Carson and Parker Morton, and Dalton Wagner; and several nieces and nephews.

His parents preceded him in death.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, with the Rev. Thomas Speidel officiating. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Calling will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday at Fellers Funeral Home, Waterloo, and prior to the service at the church.

Memorials are to the Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne.

Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, is in charge of arrangements.

E-mail condolences to: sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net

Geraldine Fortna

BUTLER — Geraldine Thelma Fortna, 71, died Friday, May 16, 2003, at 6:18 a.m. at The Laurels of DeKalb nursing home in Butler.

A former resident of Ashley, she was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ in Christian Union at Lebanon, Pa.

She was born June 22, 1941, to Archie and Lily (Keller) Eisenhour..

She was married to Herman C. Fortna Sr.

Surviving are four sons, Herman C. Fortna Jr. of Ashley, John James Fortna of North Carolina, Archie Ray Fortna of Charlotte, N.C., and Eric Lee Fortna of North Carolina; three daughtes, Debra Irene Kistler of Butler, Josephine Ann Fortna of Garrett and Lori Lynne Julow of Waterloo; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one daughter, Sharon Louise Fortna; one brother, Herman Earl Eisenhour; and one infant sister, Joyce.

A memorial service is scheduled for next week at the Church of Christ in Christian Union in Lebanon, Pa. There will be no calling.

Memorials are to a charity of the donor's choice.

DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home of Columbia City is in charge of arrangements.

For additional information, visit www.demoneygrimes.com.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
18

Angola native lays family to rest in Oregon

BY AMY OBERLIN
amyo@kpcnews.net

EUGENE, Ore. — A former Angola man laid his family to rest late last week.

Jai Karen Lea Williams, 36; Jessica Rose Lea Williams, 3; and James Eugene Williams, 1, died of smoke inhalation in the early morning hours of May 4 due to a house fire.

Many in the Steuben County area know Jim Williams, who moved to Eugene, Ore., in 1995. He married Jai on May 14, 1998. Jessica was born March 6, 2000, and James followed on March 21, 2002.

They were a close family.

Jim worked construction jobs and his company was called J.B. Williams and Daughter. He often took Jessica with him on his construction jobs, and boasted that he offered a unique operation. While many construction companies sport an "and Sons" in their name, not many claim a construction-working daughter.

"I always told people Jess was the boss," said Jim. His business card prominently featured a picture of Jessica dressed in white wearing angel wings and a halo.

Jai operated a jewelry shop, Jairations, from their home. Her silver and enamel jewelry has been exhibited in Arizona, Chicago, California, England, Canada, Illinois, Eugene, Seattle, Texas, Michigan and Hawaii, where she lived for many years. Her work was featured in several magazines, journals and catalogs.

She graduated from the College of Wooster in Ohio in 1986 and received a bachelor's degree from State University of New York at New Paltz, where she majored in jewelry and metalsmithing. She received her master's degree from the University of Oregon in Eugene in 1998.

She taught several jewelry and metalsmithing classes and workshops in New Mexico and Hawaii. She taught enameling, pottery and other courses in the craft center at the University of Oregon. She also worked as a studio technician and production assistant while in New York.

Services for the three were held at Bethesda Lutheran Church in Eugene last Friday. Along with Jim, survivors include Jai's parents, Donald and Murial Rice Roberts of Idaho and her two brothers, Carson Roberts of Atlanta, Ga., and Cameron Roberts of San Diego.

Though separated from Jim by many miles, his friends in Steuben County reached out with emails, telephone calls and emotional support. Pamela Cross of Fremont spent several days with him and his two sisters, Jeanie Williams of Angola and Shirley Reihl of Tennessee, in Eugene during the time of the funeral.

Jim cries a lot. When he sees young children, he can't hold back the tears, he said.

"Kiss your children every night," he said Friday. "And tell them you love them every day."

He wrote memorials for his family members. Jai's reads:

"We shall all miss the light you shared with the world; through yourself and your art you have touched many people in many ways.

"We will keep you in our thoughts and hearts always."

For the children:

"The sunshine of your hearts and the warmth of your love has passed far too soon but will live on in our hearts and thoughts always.

"You were loved, and you returned that love in kind. The pure love of ones so young is a gift too precious to measure and never to be lost, only cherishe forever."

PHOTO CONTRIBU

Jai Williams, 36, and her children, Rose, 3, and Jame, 1

Tributes and messages to the famil can be left www.nanobrew.com/jairations/.

Contributions are being taken for th costs associated with the recent traged and to potentially create a memorial f Jai, Jessica and James. Donations can b sent to www.paypal.com or williamsfam ilyfund@hotmail.com.

In addition, the University of Orego is considering the purchase of a piece c equipment in the metalsmithing depart ment in Jai's name. Checks mad payable to UO Foundation marked "i memory of Jai Williams" on th comment line can be sent to:

Jai Williams Memorial Project
School of Architecture and Allied Art
5235 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-5235

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 18
Kendallville, Indiana

Richard Conley was always doing favors for others in LaGrange

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judymcdonald@kpcnews.net

LAGRANGE — It was appropriate that Richard "Dick" Conley died on the golf course.

Mr. Conley died unexpectedly May 2 of an apparent heart attack while working as a part-time groundskeeper at one of his favorite haunts, the Heron Creek Golf Club. If he had to go, it was appropriate it happened there, said friend Dale Sturtz, because golf was what he loved most.

At 68, Mr. Conley had "never been sick a day in his life and never spent a night in a hospital," said Sturtz.

Mr. Conley

"He was a banker before he retired. Mowing here was just something he did to keep himself busy after he retired, said co-worker Ed Keil. "He had a lot of friends here, and he loved to golf."

After serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict, Mr. Conley resumed his studies in business and, after graduation, started out working as a bank teller at Campbell & Fetter Bank in Kendallville, making $50 a week. He ended up as the president of Shipshewana State Bank.

"He was living the American dream, while the rest of us are still chasing it," Sturtz said. "He had a successful business career and a great family. His kids are doing well."

Both of Mr. Conley's sons live in Indianapolis. One is a purchasing agent for Miller Pipeline and the other is a doctor.

"He was a great man," son Mike said. "He was just a fun-loving, good-natured 'people person' who loved to golf and loved his family."

When voters sent Sturtz to represent the 52nd District in the Indiana House, Mr. Conley replaced him as the only Democrat on the LaGrange County Council, serving there from 1992 to 2002.

The two men had been friends for many years and had sons who graduated together, but they got to know one another even better during long car trips when Sturtz was undergoing treatments, first for cancer, then for heart problems.

"It was hard to do him a favor," said Sturtz, "He was always doing favors for other people. He was always the first one to step up and help you when you needed it."

In one of their conversations, Sturtz asked his friend how he ended up being a Democrat — that he didn't know another banker who would even admit being a Democrat. Bankers and businessmen are traditionally conservatives and Republicans.

"He told me it was like driving a car. 'When you put the car in "D" you go forward, and "R" means you're going backward, and I always want to go forward,'" Sturtz quoted with a chuckle.

"He didn't want a lot of fanfare," Sturtz said of Mr. Conley's commitment to his friends. He just served others.

Mr. Conley's funeral was attended by a who's who of prominent LaGrange and Noble County citizens, including Sturtz, who said he was surprised to be asked to officiate.

"I was afraid I couldn't do him justice."

Mr. Conley is survived by his wife, Audra, who he married in 1958 in Avilla, and their two sons, Mike and Pat. Also surviving are three grandchildren.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 18 Kendallville, Indiana

Weaver taught kids and drove seniors

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

AUBURN — Marilyn Weaver loved teaching religious education to second-graders at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church in Fort Wayne, where she was a member.

Mrs. Weaver

"She taught the children 20 years ago, when her children were little, and she came back about eight years ago and started again," said Mary Kay Matasky, director of religious education at the Parish.

Mrs. Weaver, 60, died May 8, and her death deeply touched all who knew her.

"She loved the second-graders, because that is the age when they take their first Communion," Matasky said. "In fact, the last Mass she attended (May 4) was for her classes' first Communion."

Matasky said Mrs. Weaver's daughter, Cassie Baron, of Auburn, is continuing her mother's teaching tradition at Our Lady of Good Hope.

"We have pictures of the first Communion classes going back 30 years, and Marilyn is in quite a few of those," Matasky said.

Meg Zenk, director of the DeKalb Council on Aging, said Mrs. Weaver's passing is "a terrible loss to the community." Mrs. Weaver had driven the council's bus for eight years.

"She was very people-oriented and enjoyed helping everyone she came in contact with," Zenk said. "She was a beautiful lady, and her family was her first priority."

Mrs. Weaver listed "domestic engineer" as her first occupation, and at the time of her death was president of the Extension Homemakers of DeKalb County and a member of the Auburn Home Club of that organization.

"One of her prime concerns was scholarships," said Linda Bassett, vice president of the Extension Homemakers. "We are going to establish a new scholarship in her memory, to be presented next year to a county graduating senior."

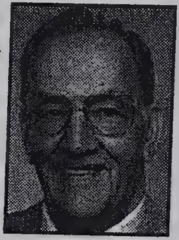
Making "puppy pillows" and blankets for Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis was one of Mrs. Weaver's many interests with the homemakers, Bassett noted.

Mrs. Weaver is survived by her husband, Theodore, and three other daughters, Mandi Morton and Darlene Weaver of Fort Wayne and Dawn Weaver of Frankfort.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY
19
Kendallville, Indiana

C. Earl Harbit

WOLCOTTVILLE — C. Earl Harbit, 84, of Wolcottville, died Saturday, May 17, 2003, in LaGrange Community Hospital, LaGrange.


Mr. Harbit

In Elwood on Nov. 16, 1918, he was born to James C. and Sophie (Norris) Harbit. On April 3, 1940, in Gary, he married Donabelle Smith. She died on March 29, 1992.

He was a mechanic for an International Harvester dealer in Kankakee, Ill., a member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Wolcottville and a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II. He was a life member of American Legion Post 215 in LaGrange, the Francis Vinyard V.F.W. Post 2749 in Kendallville, and Elkhart DAV 19.

Surviving are a daughter, Carolyn Vogel of Wolcottville; two sons and a daughter-in-law, James R. Harbit of Thayer, and John and Pat Martin of Springboro, Ohio; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Three sisters preceded him in death in addition to his parents.

Services will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange with the Rev. James R. Tews officiating. Burial will be in Graceland Cemetery, Valparaiso, with committal service at 11 a.m. Wednesday.

Calling will be 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Messiah Lutheran Church, Wolcottville.

William Miller

LAGRANGE — William E. Miller, 81, of LaGrange, died Sunday, May 18, 2003, in LaGrange Community Hospital, LaGrange.

On Jan. 13, 1922, in LaGrange County, he was born to Ellis B. and Ethel (George) Miller. He married Ireta J. Stevens on Feb. 1, 1942, in LaGrange. She survives.

He was a retired core maker from Sturgis Foundry in Sturgis, Mich., and a lifetime LaGrange County resident. He was a U.S. Army World War II veteran, and a member of LaGrange American Legion Post 215 and Pretty Prairie United Methodist Church, Howe.

Surviving in addition to his wife are four daughters and three sons-in-law, Connie and Owen Boggs of LaGrange, Janet K. Miller of Logansport, Pamala and Samuel Swihart of Orlando, Fla., and Penny and Charles Krug of South Bend; a brother, Eugene Miller of Howe; 12 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death, in addition to his parents, were a daughter, Cathy Hoffman, on April 17, 2001; a son, Billy C. Miller, on June 2, 1990; two sisters, Erma Stevens and Esther Getz; and a grandson, James Mickem, in 1987.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Frurip-May Funeral Home with the Rev. Dewey Miller officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Pretty Prairie Methodist Church, Howe.

Walter Norman Hoemig

LAKE PANASOFFKEE, Fla. — Walter Norman Hoemig, 77, of Fremont, died Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at Wecare Nursing Home, Wildwood, Fla. He lived in Fremont and at Lake Panasoffkee.

Mr. Hoemig was born Oct. 25, 1925, in Fort Wayne to Walter Charles and Edna Hoemig. He was married to Rosalie Thimlar Hoemig. She survives.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving in World War II. He was a sales representative for an electronics company.

He was a member of Peace Lutheran Church in Fremont, the Panasoffkee Veterans of Foreign Wars post, Angola American Legion Post 31, Lake Panasoffkee Moose Lodge and the Churubusco Moose Lodge.

Also surviving are two sons, Kenneth Hoemig of Fremont, and Howard Hoemig of Angola; two stepdaughters, April Arnett of Stryker, Ohio, and Jennie Rogers of Pioneer, Ohio; six grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Virginia J. Hoemig.

Military graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Greenlawn Memorial Park, Fort Wayne. Calling is 4 to 6 p.m. today at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with a 5:30 p.m. Masonic service.

Rev. Fred Cardinalli

FORT WAYNE — The Rev. Fred J. Cardinalli, 91, died Saturday, May 17, 2003, at Saint Anne Home, Fort Wayne.

Born in Fort Wayne to David and Catherine Cardinalli, he was a Catholic priest for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Father Cardinalli attended the Cathedral School, St. Joseph College, Rensselaer, St. Gregory at Cincinnati and North American College, Rome.

He was ordained in 1938 by Bishop Ralph Hayes in Rome. He was an assistant at St. Anthony Parish, Gary, and St. Joseph at Hammond. He was pastor at St. Patrick's, Largo, from 1953-1955; Immaculate Conception, Kendallville, from 1955-1962; St. Louis, Besancon, from 1962-1968; St. Vincent, Elkhart, from 1968-1979; and in residence at Saint Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, in 1979.

Survivors include Sisters Mary Cardinalli and Rita Muldoon, both of Fort Wayne.

A sister, Theresa Vondersaar, preceded him in death.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1122 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, with calling one hour prior to services. Calling is also from 4 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday at the church with a vigil service at 7:30 p.m. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Memorials are to Masses or Right to Life.

Mungovan & Sons Memorial Chapel, 2114 S. Calhoun St., is in charge of arrangements.

Nelson Smith

ALBION — Nelson Bernard Smith, 79, of Albion, died at 8:52 a.m. Monday, May 19, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

On Jan. 25, 1924, in New Paris, he was born to Joy and Anna (Cart) Smith. He married Martha Earnhart on Nov. 1, 1947, in Collins, Ind. She survives in rural Albion.

He was a farmer for 59 years, and enjoyed fishing and farming. He has lived in Noble County since 1947, coming from Arcola.

Mr. Smith was a U.S. Army World War II veteran as a private first class and a member of Avilla American Legion Post 240.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Kenneth and Karen Smith of Waterloo, and Donald Smith of LaOtto; a sister, Phyllis Penrose of Fort Wayne; two grandsons, Nelson and Jason Smith; a granddaughter, Jamie Smith; three stepgrandchildren, Steve, Greg and Debbie Smith; four great-grandchildren, Oliva, Alex, Anthony and Evan; and one stepgreat-grandchild, Braelynn.

Two sisters, Louise Helm and Berden Hutsell, two brothers, Dale and Everett Smith, and his parents preceded him in death.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Brazzell Funeral Home, Avilla, with the Rev. Dean Bearman officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery, Churubusco.

Special military graveside services will be by Avilla American Legion Post 240.

Calling is from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Arthur Grone

DELPHOS, Ohio — Arthur A. Grone, 86, of Delphos, died at 6:12 a.m. Thursday, May 15, 2003, at St. Rita's Medical Center, Delphos.

On March 8, 1917, in Marion Township, he was born to Joseph and Agnes (Kaverman) Grone. He married Eva L. Yochum, who survives.

He was a rural mail carrier for the Delphos Post Office for 44 years, and a U.S. Navy veteran, a carpenter's mate 1st class for three years during World War II. He was a member of the National Association of Rural Carriers, Delphos Country Club, Eagles Arie No. 471, and a 1935 St. John graduate in Delphos.

Surviving in addition to his wife are three sons and daughters-in-law, Neil and Norma Grone of West Chester, Ohio, James and Lois Grone of Fort Jennings, Ohio, and Michael and Dawn Grone of Sidney, Ohio; two daughters and sons-in-law, Mary and Kinnaird Kniss of Avilla, and Diana and Richard Hitchcock of Delphos; three sisters-in-law, Zelma Grone and Patricia Yochum, both of Delphos, and Beatrice Basinger of Oregon; 11 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

A sister, Catherine Marie Reinemeyer, a brother, Richard Grone, and his parents preceded him in death.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday at St. John the Evangelistic Catholic Church, Delphos. Burial was in Resurrection Cemetery.

Memorials are to the St. John Catholic School tuition.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 20
Kendallville, Indiana

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Chester L. "Chet" Mountz** were held Saturday at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home with the Rev. Kevin Sneed officiating. Burial was in Christian Union Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Gary, Michael, Terry, Jeremy, Jess and Jeff McDonald, Brad Hauenstein and Gary McDonald II.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Robert G. Heurich** were held Monday, May 19, 2003, at 11 a.m. at First Church of God, Kendallville, with the Rev. Jim Kane officiating.

Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, was in charge of arrangements.

Craig Taylor

AUBURN — Craig D. Taylor, 60, died Monday, May 19, 2003, at 9:02 p.m. in Lutheran Hospital at Fort Wayne.

Mr. Taylor had been a funeral director since 1966. He first worked for McKee Funeral Home In Garrett, then for D.O. McComb & Sons funeral homes, managing McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home in Auburn until 1999. He worked for Meeks Mortuary in Muncie for one year, then for Feller Funeral Home of Waterloo from July 2000 until his death.

He was a fourth-degree member of Knights of Columbus and a member of the Indiana Funeral Directors Association and the Union Township Advisory Board.

A past president of Auburn Lions Club, he was a charter member of the Auburn Classic Lions Club and organized the new Leo Club, sponsored by Lions for local young people.

He also was a member of the Auburn Elks Lodge, Auburn Moose Lodge, Shifters Car Club of Auburn and the Auburn Improvement Association. He was a past member of the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival Board.

He directed the makeup department for DeKalb High School musical productions for the past 16 years.

He was born Sept. 13, 1942, in Kendallville to Dexter and Ethel Taylor. His father preceded him in death. His mother survives in Kendallville.

He married Nancy Mallon on Feb. 13, 1965, in the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Chris and Laura Taylor of Fishers; a daughter and son-in-law, Leslye and Bryan Yard of Fort Wayne; and four grandchildren, Zach Taylor, Madison Taylor, Abygail Yard and Josh Yard.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 500 E. Seventh St., Auburn. Father Charles Herman will officiate. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery of Auburn.

Calling is tonight from 6-8 p.m. and Thursday from 2-8 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, and Friday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

A Lions Club service will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home, with a wake service following at 7:30 p.m.

Memorials are to the DeKalb High School Music Department.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

William Walker

LAOTTO — William G. Walker, 75, of LaOtto, died Monday, May 19, 2003, in Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

In Hunter, Ky., on Jan. 8, 1928, he was born to Homer and Gertie (Stephens) Walker. He married Nancy Thornsbury on Sept. 19, 1964, in Kendallville. She survives.

Mr. Walker was a foundry worker and retired from Fort Wayne Foundry in 1990.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are a sister, Ann Mills of Wayland, Ky., and three brothers, Clifford Walker of Wolcottville, Raymond Walker of Moorehead, Ky., and Harold Walker of Washougal, Wash.

A sister and his parents preceded him in death.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, with burial in Brushey Prairie Cemetery.

Calling will be from 6 to 9 p.m. today and 1 to 9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent to the online guest book at www.hitefuneralhome.com

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Phyllis Davis

HAMILTON — Phyllis L. Davis, 77, died Tuesday, May 20, 2003.

She worked at Betz Nursing Home in Auburn, the Butler Hotel and the Sheehy Nursing Home.

She was born Aug. 31, 1925, in Coesse to Clifford L. and Emma M. Curry.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Francis Waters, Clarence "Jack" Davis and Cleo Combs.

Surviving are four sons and three daughters-in-law, Darwin and Norma Combs of Auburn, Claude and Drucilla Combs of Butler, John Combs of Hudson and Marion and Laura Waters of Garrett; two daughters, Lana Pope of North Carolina and Anna Lesher of Angola; 15 grandchildren, one stepgrandchild, 23 great-grandchildren, three stepgreat-grandchildren and five stepgreat-great grandchildren; and three half-brothers, Bobby, Jimmy and Walter Grim.

Also preceding her in death were two daughters, Carolyn Abernathy and Phyllis Waters, and three grandchildren, Tina Lane, Tammy McBride and Duane Sachy.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in Johnson Funeral Home, 612 N. Main St., Hudson. The Rev. Sam Weimer will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery at Auburn.

Calling is Thursday from 5-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

ALBION NEW ERA
MAY 21 2003

Russel E. Freeman

AVILLA – Russel E. Freeman, 73, died Friday, May 16, 2003, in his Avilla home.

Mr. Freeman was a farmer and worked as a bartender at the St. James Restaurant in Avilla. He also worked at Myer's Farm Equipment and was a World War II Army Veteran.

He was born on September 9, 1929, in Avilla to George W. and Orpha (Gump) Freeman. The preceded him in death.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, George W. and Janet Freeman of Wolcottville; three daughters and sons-in-law, Karen and Jeff Greenfield of Auburn, Sharon and Wendell Wolfe of Auburn, and Judy and Ed Delagrange of Hicksville, Ohio; four sisters, Evelyn Blotkamp of Avilla, Marjorie Miller of Garrett, Martha Blomeke of Garrett, and Hilda Bergstrom of Auburn; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a 2 year-old grandson and four brothers, Floyd Freeman, Bill Freeman, Melvin Freeman, and Bob Freeman.

Services were held Monday, May 19, 2003, at Thomas Funeral Home in Garrett. Chaplain Paul Marki officiated. Burial was in Embrey Cemetery in Garrett.

Nelson Smith

ALBION – Nelson Bernard Smith, 79, died Monday, May 19, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital.

Born January 25, 1924, in New Paris, he was a Noble County resident since 1947 and a farmer for 59 years. He was a World War II Army veteran and a member of Avilla American Legion Post 240. He enjoyed fishing and farming.

Surviving are his wife, Martha Earnhart of rural Albion, whom he wed November 1, 1947; sons, Kenneth (Karen) Smith of Waterloo, Donald Smith of LaOtto; two grandsons, Nelson and Jason Smith; grand-daughter, Jamie Smith; three step-grandchildren, Steve, Greg, and Debbie Smith; four great-grandchildren, Olivia, Alex, Anthony, and Evan; and one step-great-grandchild, Braelynn; and one sister, Phyllis Penrose of Fort Wayne.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joy and Anna (Cart) Smith; two sisters, Louise Helm, and Berden Hutsell; and two brothers, Dale and Everett Smith.

Services will be held Thursday, May 22, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla. Military graveside service will be by the Avilla American Legion Post 240 at Eel River Cemetery, Churubusco.

ALBION NEW ERA
MAY 21 2003

Former Busco man killed in Mid East terrorist attack

by V.L. Rosswurm

Terrorism hit home for Churubusco in a way that many hoped and prayed it would not. Todd Bair, 37, a former Churubusco resident, was killed late Monday night, May 12, when terrorists armed with car bombs attacked residential compounds in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The blast killed 34 people, including eight Americans.

Todd Bair

Bair, who attended Churubusco Elementary School and had just completed sixth grade when he moved to Florida, worked as a civilian military instructor for Vinnell Corporation, a military subcontracting company based out of Fairfax, Virginia. Vinnell is a subsidiary of Northrop-Grumman Corporation.

Bair was contracted to train the Saudi National Guard and had been working in Saudi Arabia for the past 12 months. The terrorist suicide attacks came shortly before midnight and investigators surmise that those killed may have been sleeping at the time of the attacks.

Bair's wife Samantha and two young sons. Daniel, 11, and Blake, 8, expected Bair to be returning to their home in England in 6-8 weeks.

Bair was born in Huntington and grew up in Churubusco where his father Paul "Butch" Bair, Jr., was employed as a school teacher at Smith-Green Community Schools from 1968-78. Paul Bair Jr. now resides in Florida and is a teacher and swim coach at Lake Wales High School. Todd's mother and stepfather, Emma and Rich Thompson, also reside in Lake Wales, Florida. Several relatives including uncles and aunts Max and Linda Bair of LaOtto and Gordon and Linda Bair Wierschke of Albion, and his grandfather, Paul Bair, Sr. of Churubusco, learned of their nephew and grandson's death on Tuesday afternoon.

After graduating from Lake Wales High School in 1984, Bair joined the Army where he completed one term and then attended Polk Community College. He was an accomplished athlete in both football and basketball. Later, he joined the Army Reserves and took advantage of an ROTC scholarship to attend Florida Southern College, where he obtained a degree in military science and political science in 1993. While in college, he was called to active duty and served in the first Gulf War. He was a Captain when he left the Army and went to work for Vinnell last year.

His contract with Vinnell expired this August and, citing rising tension in the Mid East, Bair told family members he planned to pursue other career options.

He is described as a family-oriented man who enjoyed nothing more than spending time golfing and fly fishing with his sons. The family of four had settled in England because Samantha is English and it was the parents' wish to have their boys attend English schools.

Bair's stepfather and father both heard about the suicide bombings on a news report aired Tuesday morning. The Vinnell housing compound was identified as one of the targets and for hours the families hoped that Todd was not in the compound at the time.

After hearing about the terrorist attack on the morning news, Bair Jr. spent most of Tuesday on the Internet and calling the State Department, trying desperately to find out more information on his son's whereabouts.

"I emailed my daughter-in-law in England and she wrote back to me and said, *'Dad, we haven't heard from Todd, but I will call you when we do.'* " said Bair, Jr.

At around 2 p.m. Bair, Jr. received an email from Samantha in England that urged him to call her right away because she needed to talk with him.

"My daughter, (Tammy Bair Stephenson), was here from Orlando and she made the call, Bair Jr. said. "That's when our worst fears were confirmed and we knew that Todd was one of the ones who died in the attack."

Bair, Jr. last saw his son about a year ago after Todd finished his last Army post in Washington D.C. Bair had made plans to visit his family in Florida before flying to England to buy a house for his family. Just a few weeks ago, on Easter break, Bair took a two-week leave from Saudi Arabia and spent time with his family at their home in England.

The news of Todd's death quickly traveled to friends and relatives in the Churubusco area. His grandfather, Paul Bair, Sr., is in a nursing home in Columbia City and suffers bouts of dementia.

When his daughter told the senior Bair about Todd, not sure if he would comprehend the tragedy, he seemed to remember.

"Oh," he said sadly. " He had those two nice little boys."

"The support of everyone has been overwhelming. Todd was well liked and respected. All of my family is there (in Churubusco) but my co-workers at the school have been so supportive, just like a big family," Bair, Jr. said.

"It could have been worse for America. We heard that there were 50 Americans who were out on patrol and were not in the compound during the bombings," Bair Jr. said.

"Todd used to try and comfort us with the fact that he was working in the Mid East. He said, *'Daddy, they've got a plan for us, you know.'* But I don't think they had a plan for this."

"He was a good soldier and his men respected him," said his father. "He will be missed."

Todd Bair's widow and sons are preparing to fly back to the United States for the funeral and are expected to arrive in Florida Thursday.

Bair's body is being transported back to the U.S. and services will be held this Saturday, May 24, at the First United Methodist Church in Lake Wales, Florida.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
22

Edna Ormsby

FORT WAYNE — Edna C. Ormsby, 88, died Tuesday, May 20, 2003, at Lutheran Medical Office, Fort Wayne.

Born in Darke County, Ohio, she was a secretary with Troy Towel Supply for 42 years.

She was an avid reader who enjoyed bowling and golf and was active in the Mission Circle at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church where she was a member.

Surviving are three daughters, Catherine "Betty" Williams of New Haven, Judith E. Richter of Albion, and Nancy L. Henninger of Fort Wayne; two stepdaughters, Mary Fechner of Bakersfield Calif., and Waneta "Terri" Cummick of Fort Wayne; four sisters, Esther R. Morgan of Richmond, Helen M. Mikesell of Onyx, Calif., and Thelma Harshbarger and Velma Ingle, both of Bradford, Ohio; 12 grandchildren, Philip "Jerry" Wilson Jr., Catherine Platt and Cynthia Hesterman, all of Huntertown, Karen Johnson of Churubusco, Kelly Richter of Albion, Lori Beth Miodus of Fort Wayne, Lori Fisher and Lisa Samra, both of New Haven, Kevin Richter of Albion, Brian Henninger of Warsaw, and Stacy Hare and Melissa Zimmerman, both of Fort Wayne; 22 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Her husband, Argus L., preceded her in death in 1967, and also a grandson, Steven Robert Wilson.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 729 W. Washington Blvd., with calling one hour prior to services at the church. Burial will be in Prospect Cemetery, Ossian.

Calling will be from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Friday at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home, 1140 Lake Ave.

Memorials are to Cancer Services of Allen County or St. John's Women of E.L.C.A.

THE NEWS SUN
KENDALLVILLE, INDIANA
MAY 23, 2003

Forrest Strawser

KENDALLVILLE — Forrest O. Strawser, 78, died Thursday, May 22, 2003, at the Cheboygan Community Hospital in Cheboygan, Mich.

He was co-owner of Strawser Brothers Construction Co., from 1950 until his retirement in 1993.

He was a member of the Masonic and Elks lodges and had attended the Church of the Nazarene.

Mr. Strawser

He was born in Scott, Ind., Aug. 19, 1924, to Carl D. and Imogene M. (Bassett) Strawser.

He married Carol Jean Faux Oct. 21, 1945, in Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are four sons and three daughters-in-law, Maynard Allen and Marilyn Strawser of Coldwater, Mich., Robert Forrest and Jean Strawser of Auburn, Stephen Lynn and Teresa Strawser of Fort Wayne and Randall Owen Strawser of Fort Wayne; a brother and sister-in-law, Sherman and Marjorie Strawser of Kendallville; three sisters and a brother-in-law, Mildred Todd of Howe, Carol Helmer of LaGrange and Naomi and Don Moore of Kokomo; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death was a daughter, Linda Lou Strawser, in 1946.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dr. Dan Barker officiating. Burial will be at the South Milford Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home.

Memorials are to Trinity Christian Youth Fund.

Send condolences or sign the online guestbook at www.hitefuneral home.com.

Retired city businessman Forrest Strawser, 78, dies

KENDALLVILLE — Retired Kendallville businessman Forrest O. Strawser, 78, died Thursday at the Cheboygan Community Hospital in Cheboygan, Mich.

The Kendallville resident was co-owner of Strawser Brothers Construction Co. from 1950 until his retirement in 1993. He was a member of the Masonic and Elks lodges and had attended the Church of the Nazarene.

Mr. Strawser

"He did a lot for the community," said Sherman Strawser, who also is retired from the construction firm he co-owned with his brother. Forrest would put up street lights and street decorations. He worked for McCray Hospital and the Cole Center Family YMCA, according to Sherman Strawser.

Forrest also contributed to organizations in the area. "If he could help anybody, he would help them," Sherman Strawser said, adding that his brother was tough, but helped when it was needed.

"He was a very good friend to many people," said George O. Witwer, principal owner of Kendallville Publishing Co., which publishes The News-Sun. "He did a lot of work for The News-Sun.

"He was a generous man. I always thought he was a very honest man," Witwer said.

Strawser bought the former Lutheran Home on Mitchell Street and turned it into low-cost housing.

His wife, the former Carol Jean Faux, ran the office, Witwer said, adding, "They were a business team.

"He used to tell some wonderful funny stories," Witwer said.

Forrest enjoyed going to northern Michigan, Sherman Strawser said. "He'd go up there two or three or four times a year."

He also went to Florida every winter.

Forrest also loved his yard, Sherman Strawser said. "He enjoyed people. He enjoyed construction. … He really enjoyed golfing."

Forrest Strawser had battled Crohn's disease for decades, Sherman said. "He had a strong constitution. He never gave up." He had a lot of respect for his physician Rex Flenar.

A full obituary appears today.

Maryland Slone

LAGRANGE — Maryland Slone, 77, of 787 N. Detroit St. died at 3:10 a.m. Thursday, May 22, 2003 at Miller Merry Manor Nursing Home.

In Pike County, Ky., on July 15, 1925, she was born to Lenord and Martha (Straton) Herington.

She was a homemaker.

Surviving are six sons, Walter Parsons of LaGrange, Lenord D. Parsons and Saint Parsons, both of Kentucky, Johnny Parsons of Angola, Garland Parsons of Indiana, and Willie Parsons of Goshen; a daughter, Betty Whyle of LaGrange; a sister, Fay Workman of Pikeville, Ky.; 22 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her parents, and a son, Ira Parsons, in 1993.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Sunday at J. W. Call Funeral Home, Pikeville, Ky.

Calling will be Saturday afternoon at the funeral home.

Carney-Frost Funeral Home, LaGrange, is in charge of local arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 23 Kendallville, Indiana

Sophie Slone

LIGONIER — Sophie Gibson Slone, 78, died Thursday, May 22, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital.

She was a member of Salem United Baptist Church. She worked for 40 years at United Technologies and Cromwell Products, retiring in May 1992.

Mrs. Slone

She was born in Vest, Ky., Sept. 1, 1924, to Dan and Margaret (Grigsby) Gibson.

She married Corbet Slone July 20, 1942, in Vest. He survives in Ligonier.

Also surviving are three daughters and sons-in-law, LaDonna and Larry McConahay of Stroh, Betty and the Rev. Billy Ray Tuttle of Hudson and Joeann and Ronald Spade of Angola; 11 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a son, Don Slone; a grandson, Christopher Mynhier; three sisters, Ida Owsley, Lillie Wallen and Flossie Tuttle; and one brother, Earl Gibson.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Salem United Baptist Church on S.R. 9 south of Rome City, with the Revs. Billy Ray Tuttle, Anthony Sparkman and Glen Jackson officiating. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery, Ligonier.

Calling will be Saturday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, and Sunday after 4 p.m., with services at 6 p.m. at Salem United Baptist Church.

Memorials are to the church.

Send condolences or sign the online guestbook at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Audrie Myers

ROCKFORD, Ohio — Audrie Leona (Book) High White Myers, 98, formerly of Willshire, died at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 21, 2003, at the Laurels of Shane Hill in Rockford.

On Jan. 20, 1905, in Mercer County, Ohio, she was born to James F. and Mary (Felver) Book. She married Doyt High who died in 1925. She married Hershel Ernest White who died June 9, 1959. She then married John Myers who died in 1997.

She was a homemaker and a member of the Former Albion E.U.B. Church and attended Willshire United Methodist Church.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Jerry and Wilma White of Van Wert and Dennis Myers of Kendallville; a stepson, Terry Myers of York, Pa.; a sister, Dolores Reichard of Rockford; 12 grandchildren; four stepgrandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; three stepgreat-grandchildren; and eight great-great-grandchildren.

A son, Colin Blaine High; a stepdaughter, Jackie (Myers) Thompson; and two sisters, Lois Merriman and Ola Leah Book, preceded her in death.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Cowan & Son Funeral Home in Van Wert. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery in Rockford.

Calling will be today from 3 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Mercer County Hospice.

Berniece Troop

MULBERRY, Fla. — Berniece (Mankey) Troop, 83, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Wednesday, May 7, 2003, in Mulberry.

She was born in Berne, Ind., on April 4, 1920, and was a member of the American Legion Post 72 auxiliary in Mulberry.

She worked at Sears and U.S. Rubber Co. before moving to Florida in 1974.

Surviving are two daughters, Victoria Mims and Carlita Edwards, both of Mulberry; two sons, Lewis Troop Jr. of St. Cloud, Fla., and John (Joe) Shaw of Churubusco, Ind.; a sister-in-law, Grace Ley of Avilla, Ind., a sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Kate and Charles Albin of Tuscola, Ill.; 14 granchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceeded in death by her husband, Lewis, in 1993; a daughter, Gloria Rainey in 1981; a sister, Ruth Hall; and a brother, Chris Mankey.

Services were held Sunday, May 11 at Seigler Funeral Home, Mulberry. Burial was in Willow Oak Cemetery, Willow Oak.

Virginia Simon

FORT WAYNE — Virginia M. Simon, 84, died Thursday, May 22, 2003, at St. Anne Home in Fort Wayne.

She was manager of Lord's Dress Shop in Kendallville for 18 years, retiring in 1972.

She was born in Kendallville.

Surviving are a daughter, Bonnie Gillespie of Fort Wayne; a son, Dave Simon of Fort Wayne; two brothers, John Steckley of Pomona Park, Fla., and Lee Myers of LaOtto; a sister, Virginia Miller of Kendallville; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Her husband, Christopher, preceded her in death in 1964.

Services will be Saturday at 3 p.m. at St. Anne's Home Chapel, 1900 Randallia Drive, Fort Wayne. Burial will be in Avilla Cemetery, Avilla.

Calling will be from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday before services.

Memorials are to St. Anne Home.

D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Nellie Worrell

FORT WAYNE — Nellie B. Worrell, 60, died Friday, May 23, 2003, at 6:05 a.m. in the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana at Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker, a 60-year resident of Fort Wayne and a member of the Tillman Road Church of God.

She was born Nov. 11, 1942, in Middlesboro, Ky., to John L. and Lulu Mae (Smith) Gray. They preceded her in death.

Surviving are three sons, Eddie Worrell of Woodstock, Ga., Charles Hall of Scottsburg and Jack Fultz of Dallas; two daughters, Jani Suarez of Woodstock, Ga., and Hannah Johnson of Kokomo; 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild; two brothers, John Gray of Avilla and Verlin Gray of Fort Wayne; three half-brothers, James Hood of Liberty Center, Finley Hood of Fort Wayne and William Hood of Fort Wayne; and three half-sisters, Dallie Snyder of New Haven, Mary Jane Romero of Ossian and Deborah Spillers of Fort Wayne.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett. Pastor George Chatham will officiate. Burial will be in Huntertown Cemetery.

Calling is Monday from 4-7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Lutheran Home.

Condolences may be sent to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **William G. Walker** were held Friday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Burial was at Brushy Prairie Cemetery in LaGrange.

Pallbearers were Steve Miller, Jerry Mills, Pete Mills, Harold Mills, Jeremy Hayward and Brian Prisock.

Anita Bower

AUBURN — Anita A. Bower, 72, of Auburn, died at 7 a.m. on Friday, May 23, 2003, at her residence.

Visitation and services are pending at the First United Methodist Church in Auburn. Arrangements are being made through Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Marshall Rider

HOWE — Marshall Rider, 73, died on Tuesday, May 20, 2003.

Before retiring, Mr. Rider was a truck driver. He was a member of the Moose lodge in LaGrange and a 26-year member of the Eagles lodge.

He was born Oct. 30, 1929, in Ionia, Mich. He married Lillian Cook. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Martin Rider of Flint, Mich.; a daughter, Debra Rider of Flint, Mich.; two stepsons, Ronald Cook of Terre Haute and Shawn Dague of Howe; three sisters, Donna Cook of LaGrange, Inez O'Boyle of Alma, Mich., and Berry Bannon of Tucson, Ariz.; two brothers, Bill Rider of Mt. Morris, Mich., and Ed Doan of Three Rivers, Mich.; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services are pending at Alpha Funeral Service in Indianapolis.

James Butler

ANGOLA — James R. Butler, 78, died Friday, May 23, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Angola.

Mr. Butler was born on Dec. 25, 1924, in Ashley, the son of Monroe and Irene (DeLong) Butler. He married Joan Butler on Oct. 18, 1847, and she survives.

Mr. Butler was a World War II veteran and was awarded the Purple Heart. He was a salesman for Armour & Co. for 21 years and was vice president and genneral manager for Gay's Market for 16 years, retiring in 1986. He was a member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Angola; a member and past commander of the Orland American Legion; Disabled American Veterans; Knights of Columbus; and a member of the Prairie Heights Community Schools board and was its president one year.

Also surviving are his mother, Irene, of LaGrange; two sons, Jeffery Butler of Richmond, and Douglas Butler of Walnut Creek, Calif.; two daughters, Kathy Vrana and Lisa Tracey, both of Angola; a brother, Richard Butler of Springfield, Ohio; a sister, Mary Strawser of Rome City; and nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father; two grandsons, Collin Vrana and Benjie Butler; a brother, Ralph; and two sisters, Jean Sanders and Ruth Stroh.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at St. Anthony Catholic Church with the Rev. Fred Pasche officiating. Calling is Sunday from 4-8 p.m. at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola. Burial will be in Greenlawn Cemetery, Orland.

Memorials are to the church.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 25 Kendallville, Indiana

DeKalb County loses great volunteer in Craig Taylor

Tribute

BY DAVE KURTZ
dkurtz@kpcnews.net

AUBURN — Craig Taylor worked as a funeral director for nearly 40 years, but almost no one mentions his job first when they remember him.

Mr. Taylor was too busy with life to be primarily associated with sorrow.

He was foremost a stalwart for the Lions Club, a sparkplug for old-car hobbyists, a friend to a generation of DeKalb County's teenagers.

Mr. Taylor died unexpectedly Monday at the age of 60.

"We lost a great community person," said Larry Dove, president of the DeKalb County Fair Board. "He was probably one of the greatest volunteers in DeKalb County and that was why I was tickled to have him on our team."

Mr. Taylor's goals were simple, Dove said: "He just liked to have people get together and smile and have a good time."

"He was just the kind of person you liked to be around," said Jack Randinelli, chairman of the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival.

Mr. Taylor

In recent years, Mr. Taylor had served as a director for Auburn's two most popular events, the county fair and its classic-car festival. He helped the fair board launch Autumn Fest and worked on the successful new Friday night cruise-in for the ACD Festival.

Many years earlier, he had become involved with local young people through DeKalb High School's show choirs and theater program.

A show choir member worked for Mr. Taylor at McComb, Dilgard and Cline Funeral Home in Auburn in the 1980s. Mr. Taylor stopped by the school to see why the young man bubbled with enthusiasm about the choir.

Kent Johnson, husband of choir director Shelley Johnson, still remembers what happened next.

"The show gets over with and he walks up to Shelley and I and says, 'This is amazing. What can I do to help?' He never stopped asking that question for the next 16 years," Johnson said.

Mr. Taylor began by helping with makeup for DeKalb's plays and musicals. The student performers learned, to their surprise, that Mr. Taylor was accustomed to putting makeup on deceased persons. He worked best when his subjects were lying down.

"They just got the biggest kick out of that," Johnson said. Mr. Taylor apologized and promised to learn to apply makeup to upright performers. Johnson wouldn't hear of it.

"It was a great tension-breaker. The kids got a hoot out of it. They didn't think it was morbid or anything like that," Johnson said.

Soon, Johnson would find students flocked around Taylor while he prepared them for the stage.

"He just gave unconditional love to those kids," Johnson said. "They just formed a bond with him that's so rare between kids and adults."

Mr. Taylor found a way to merge his passion for the Lions Club with his heart for young people.

He had been instrumental in starting Auburn's five-year-old Classic Noon Lions Club. He would have become its president last Thursday.

Mr. Taylor wanted the Lions to sponsor a Leo Club for students. He intended to start it next fall, but pushed the schedule forward a year.

"He decided that there was such a good group of kids out there right now that we needed to do it while the time was right," said Doris Blickenstaff, outgoing president of the Lions.

This year's Leo members became the only ones to be mentored by Mr. Taylor.

"He was really good at motivating us to make the club as good as it could be," said Tony Way, first president of the Leo Club. "He was just a real good guy to talk to and anything you needed to ask or needed advice on, he was there for you."

DeKalb County almost missed all that, when Mr. Taylor and his wife, Nancy,
moved to Muncie for his ne
job in 1999. A year later, th
knew they had made a mistak
Mr. Taylor called Ron Feller
Feller Funeral Home
Waterloo, saying he wanted
come home.

In prior years, Feller said,
never had a feeling from hi
that we were competitors. W
were just professional friends
He hired Mr. Taylor witho
hesitation.

A few weeks later, a head-o
highway crash crippled bo
Mr. and Mrs. Taylor. Walkin
became a struggle for both. B
his pain never broke M
Taylor's jovial spirit
cramped his busy style.

"He liked people, he like
to be involved," Feller sai
"He would just do things
make us feel good about eac
other."

And on the job, Feller sai
"He knew how to talk to peopl
and help people in their time
need."

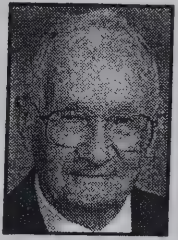
THE NEWS SUN

MAY 25 Kendallville, Indiana

Dale Parr

ANGOLA — Dale S. Parr, 87, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in Angola.

A 1934 graduate of Salem Center High School, he was a farmer and worked at Cooper in Auburn for 15 years. He was a member of the Northeastern Masonic Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons No. 210 of Fremont and the Hudson United Methodist Church.


Mr. Parr

He was born June 23, 1915, in LaGrange County, to Shirley and Sylvia (Canon) Parr. On March 21, 1941, in Kendallville, he married Norma Virginia Lower, and she preceded him in death Feb. 3, 1994. A brother, Donald Parr, and a sister, Dorothy Coney, are also deceased.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Nancy and Walter Krohn of Angola and Pat and Bob Dimmitt of Missouri City, Texas; three grandchildren, Kurt Krohn of Angola, Jennifer Dewey of Tulsa, Okla., and Jalyn Dimmitt of Missouri City, Texas; two great-grandsons, Maclain Krohn and Thomas Dewey; and two brothers, Gerald Parr of Hobart and Merritt Parr of Indian River, Mich.

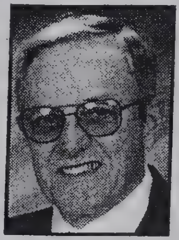
Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Ken Ludwig of Hudson United Methodist Church officiating. Calling will be Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m., with a Masonic service at 7:30 p.m.

Burial will be in Circle Cemetery, Hudson. Memorials are to the American Heart Association or Hudson United Methodist Church.

Floyd Graber

SHIPSHEWANA — Floyd V. Graber, 73, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at Borgess Medical Center in Kalamazoo, Mich., where he had been a patient since May 2.

He was a farmer, inventor and owner of several businesses, including Millers Spray Service from 1972-1987, Tri-State Scabbing from 1987-2001 and Graber's Grills.


Mr. Graber

He lived north of Sturgis, Mich., for 26 years before moving to Shipshewana in 1978. He was a member of Roselawn Conservative Mennonite Church in Middlebury.

He was born Aug. 29, 1929, in Middlebury, to Abe and Rena (Roth) Graber. On June 11, 1950 at Pleasant Grove Conservative Mennonite Church in Goshen, he married Edna Miller, and she survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Donneta and Leroy Yoder of Shipshewana and Jolene and Dwayne Borkholder of Bremen; two sons and daughters-in-law, Sheldon and Ellen Graber of Shipshewana and Wendell and Lila Graber of Sault St. Marie, Ontario, Canada; a son-in-law, Merlin Bontrager and his wife, Regina, of Middlebury; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Esther and Glenn Riegsecker of Middlebury and Ruby and Floyd Miller of White Pigeon, Mich.; and five brothers and sisters-in-law, Allen and Amanda Graber and Sam and Adeline Graber, all of Middlebury, Ezra and Erma Graber of Shipshewana, Joe and Clara Graber of White Pigeon, Mich., and Ervin and Beulah Graber of Constantine, Mich.

A daughter, Robin Bontrager, preceded him in death on May 4, 2000. A brother, Dan Graber, is also deceased.

Services will be Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Griner Mennonite Church in Middlebury, with the Rev. Thad Lechlitner, the Rev. Troy Brubacher and the Rev. Harry Yoder, all of Roselawn Conservative Mennonite Church, officiating.

Calling will be today from 5-8 p.m. and Monday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the church. Burial will be in Miller Cemetery, Goshen. Memorials are to the Robin Bontrager Memorial Scholarship.

Paul 'Casey' Jones

HICKSVILLE, Ohio — Paul E. "Casey" Jones, 85, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at Hickory Creek of Hicksville, where he had been a resident since 1998.

Mr. Jones worked at Crook-Miller Co. in Hicksville and had retired from Par-tee Co. of Spencerville, Ind.

He was born June 21, 1917, in Paulding County, Ohio, to Charlie and Grace (Rothgib) Jones.

He married Doris Keller on Jan. 21, 1945. She died Jan. 18, 1990.

Surviving are a brother and sister-in-law, Ray and Becky Jones of Hicksville, and a sister, Mildred Hughes of Coldwater, Mich.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Frank and Robert Jones.

Calling is Tuesday from 5-8 p.m. at Brown Funeral Home, 706 N. Main St., Hicksville.

A memorial service will follow at a later date.

Memorials are to the family.

The following obituary is being republished to provide additional information.

James Butler

ANGOLA — James R. Butler, 78, died Friday, May 23, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital, Angola.

Mr. Butler was born on Dec. 25, 1924, in Ashley, the son of Monroe and Irene (DeLong) Butler. He married Joan F. Nowicki on Oct. 18, 1947, and she survives in Angola.

Mr. Butler

Mr. Butler was a World War II veteran and was awarded the Purple Heart. He was a salesman for Armour & Co. for 21 years and was vice president and general manager for Gay's Market for 16 years, retiring in 1986. He was a member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Angola; a member and past commander of the Orland American Legion; Disabled American Veterans; Knights of Columbus; and a member of the Prairie Heights Community Schools board eight years and was its president one year.

Also surviving are his mother, Irene, of LaGrange; two sons, Jeffery Butler of Richmond, and Douglas Butler of Walnut Creek, Calif.; two daughters, Kathy Vrana and Lisa Tracey, both of Angola; a brother, Richard Butler of Springfield, Ohio; a sister, Mary Strawser of Rome City; and nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father; two grandsons, Collin Vrana and Benjie Butler; a brother, Ralph; and two sisters, Jean Sanders and Ruth Stroh.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at St. Anthony Catholic Church with the Rev. Fred Pasche officiating. Calling is today from 4-8 p.m. at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola. Burial will be in Greenlawn Cemetery, Orland. Military graveside services will be conducted by the Orland American Legion.

Memorials are to the church.

Rodney Barth

LAKE PANASOFFKEE, Fla. — Rodney N. Barth, 80, died Friday, May 23, 2003, at Inverness, Fla.

A native of Fort Wayne, he had been a resident of Sumter County since 1988. He previously lived in Ruskin, Fla.

Mr. Barth worked as an assemblyman in the automotive industry. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army. He was of the Catholic faith.

Surviving are two sons, Robert Barth of Fort Wayne and Steven Barth of Auburn; one daughter, Deborah Steury of Auburn; two sisters, Patricia Fox of Fort Wayne and June Grider of Sturgis, Mich.; 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren and a loving companion, "Patch."

Services will be Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in Florida National Cemetery at Bushnell, Fla. Father Peter Sagorski will officiate, with military honors by Marine Corps League 708.

Calling is Tuesday from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Purcell Funeral Home Chapel, 114 W. Noble Ave., Bushnell, Fla.

Memorials are to the Michael Barth Art Scholarship Fund.

Donald Offord

AVILLA — Donald A. Offord, 72, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

He was a machine operator for over 30 years at Zollner Piston in Fort Wayne, and also worked part time securing parts and running errands for Avilla Motor Works.

He grew up in Avilla and moved to Fort Wayne after serving the U.S. Army as a sergeant in the Korean Conflict. He moved back to Avilla in 1984.

He was past commander of American Legion Post No. 240 of Avilla in 1991 and 1995. He enjoyed bowling, Nascar, being outdoors and camping with his wife.

He was born Nov. 29, 1930, in Fort Wayne, to Basil and Faye Etta (Truelove) Offord. On May 24, 1956, at Hopewell, he married Emma Jean Huff, and she preceded him in death on Dec. 17, 1997. Two brothers, Ralph Offord and James Decker, and a sister, Dorothy Sloffer, are also deceased.

Surviving are a daughter, Donna Jean Offord of Avilla; a son, Kenneth C. Offord of Columbia City; two granddaughters, Veronica M. Gabet of Fort Wayne and Nicole S. Gabet of Bluffton; a sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Ed Hindenlang of Avilla; and a brother, Ronald B. Offord of Fort Wayne.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with the Rev. Ken Robinson officiating. Calling will be Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m.

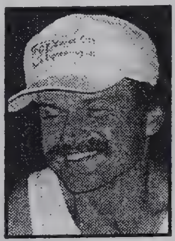
Burial will be in Avilla Cemetery, with military rites by American Legion Post No. 240. Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Michael Amstutz

SPENCERVILLE — Michael J. Amstutz, 53, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at his residence in Spencerville.

Mr. Amstutz was the owner of Amstutz Well Drilling, which he ran with his wife, daughter and son-in-law.

He graduated from Carroll High School in 1969 as valedictorian of his class. He was a charter member of Sons of the American Legion Post 409 in Leo. He was also a member of the Indiana Ground Water Association and the Leo-Cedarville Chamber of Commerce.


Mr. Amstutz

He was known for being kind and giving as a husband, father, son, brother and papa.

He was born March 12, 1950, in Fort Wayne.

He married Dara Denise Chapman on Nov. 6, 1971, at Robinson Chapel United Methodist Church in Fort Wayne. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Amy and Bret Allen of Leo; three granddaughters, Alexa, Blair and Mica Allen of Leo; his mother, Patricia (Green) Radkoski of Punta Gorda, Fla.; his father and stepmother, Gerald and Joan Amstutz of Spencerville; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Melissa Amstutz and Rick Hullinger of St. Joe and Mollie Amstutz of Huntertown; two stepbrothers, Steve Sauder of Leo and Gary Sauder of Fort Wayne and a stepsister, Jan Halter of Leo.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Grabill Missionary Church, 13637 State St., Grabill. The Rev. Bob Herman will officiate. Burial will be in Leo Memorial Park Cemetery.

Calling is Monday from 2-4 and 6-9 p.m. and Tuesday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Visiting Nurse Service and Hospice, 5910 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46804.

Carnahan-Baidinger & Walter Funeral Home of Spencerville is in charge of arrangements.

Ruth Johnson

KENDALLVILLE — Ruth G. Johnson, 92, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at Kendallville Manor Healthcare.

She was a Kendallville resident for 42 years and an ordained minister since 1937. She was a member of the Jehovah's Witness for 66 years.

She was born Aug. 29, 1910, in Selma, Ala., to Joseph and Marie (Paisley) Gill. She married James Wilbur Johnson, and he preceded her in death on June 6, 1991.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Mary and Marvin Olson of Goshen; and a grandson, Marvin Olson Jr. of Elkhart.

Memorial services will be Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall in Kendallville. Burial will be in Orange Cemetery, Brimfield.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Hazel Haithcox

ELKHART — Hazel Louise Haithcox, 78, of Bristol, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at Elkhart General Hospital.

She moved to Elkhart County in 1949 as an employee of Whitehall Laboratory, where she worked for 45 years before retiring in 1988 from her position as line leader.

Mrs. Haithcox

She was born July 19, 1925, in Knoxville, Tenn., to Ernest and Mary (York) Hicks. On May 25, 1954, in Chicago, she married Earl Haithcox, and he survives.

Also surviving are a stepdaughter, Carla L. Haithcox of Stockbridge, Ga.; a stepson, Carlton L. Haithcox of Smyrna, Ga.; three stepgrandchildren, Carlton L. Haithcox and Erin and Alexandria Williams; one stepgreat-grandson, Carlton Lemel Haithcox; a neice, Rhoda Weaver-Watson of Granger; a nephew, Allen Hood of Union, Mich.; a brother, Charles "Jack" Hicks; and many friends, including Army Houston and Dawn, Drew and Deeandra Vetch of Elkhart.

A sister, Pauline Brewer, preceded her in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Pleasant Valley Church of the Brethren in Middlebury, with the Rev. Jack Carry officiating. Calling will be Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury.

Burial will be in Oakridge Cemetery, Bristol.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 25
Kendallville, Indiana

Anita Bower

AUBURN — Anita Abbott Bower, 72, died Friday, May 23, 2003, at her Auburn home.

She worked for Eli Lilly's international department as a Spanish interpreter before her marriage. She earned a bachelor's degree in English literature from Indiana University, where she was a member of Delta Gamma sorority. She had also belonged to Tri Kappa, the Ladies Literary Club, the DeKalb Memorial Hospital Guild, Greenhurst Country Club and Habanera.

She was born Oct. 19, 1930, in Martinsville, to Dr. Wayne D. and Juanita (Hall) Abbott. On Dec. 26, 1952, in Martinsville, she married John W. Bower, and he survives in Auburn.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, John W. and Melenda R. Bower of Tallahassee, Fla.; a daughter and son-in-law, Rebecca B. and Rober G. Kramer of Portage, Mich.; seven grandchildren, Caitlin, Robert Jr. Kelsey and John Kramer, Caroline and Bonnie Bower and Melissa Carter.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Auburn, with the Rev. William Kaster officiating. Calling will be Monday from 5-8 p.m. and Tuesday from 10-11 a.m. at the church

Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery, Auburn. Memorials are to DeKalb Memorial Hospice or the American Cancer Society.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
27

Jerry Tackett

SHIPSHEWANA — Jerry Neal Tackett, 66, died at 4 a.m. Sunday, May 25, 2003, at his home after declining in health.

Mr. Tackett

He had worked for Elcona Homes in Elkhart for 16 years and retired from Patriot Homes in Shipshewana after 15 years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He moved to Indiana in 1961.

He was born in Jenkins, Ky., Feb. 20, 1937, to George and Myra Tackett.

He married Olivia "Ovie" Mullins April 19, 1958, in Levon, Va. She died Oct. 21, 2001.

Surviving are six daughters and three sons-in-law, Laura and James Greensides of Bristol, Tina and Terry Knight of Goshen, Jerri Lynn and Bill Middleton of Butler, Olivia Tackett and Jessica Tackett, both of Bristol, and Ashley Tackett of Constantine, Mich.; five sons and one daughter-in-law, Randy Tackett of Constantine, Rick Tackett of Fontana, Calif., Jeff and Betsy Tackett and Justin Tackett, all of Shipshewana, and Ryan Tackett of Bristol; two brothers and a sister-in-law, Carlos "Cotton" and Imogene Tackett of Detroit and Randolph Tackett of Bristol.

Preceding him in death were a daughter, Libby Joe Tackett; a son, Terry Tackett; three sisters; and four brothers.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at River of Life Fellowship, Middlebury, with the Rev. Gordan Henke officiating. Burial will be at Bonneyville Cemetery, Bristol.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home.

Memorials are to the family.

Anna Cummins

ALBION — Anna M. Cummins, 84, died at 2:20 p.m. Sunday, May 25, 2003, in the emergency room at Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

Mrs. Cummins

She was a factory worker, retiring from Hamlin in Topeka in 1980 after five years of service. She had completed her education in Indianapolis and moved with her husband to Loon Lake in 1955. They later lived in Etna, North Webster and moved to Kimmell in April 1979. She was a resident of Albion since November 2002. She was a member of Cornerstone Wesleyan Church.

She was born in Indianapolis Feb. 19, 1919, to Walter and Ethel (Malcolm) Broadstone.

She married Seth Cummins June 21, 1951. He died Nov. 2, 1974.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, JoAnne and Marvin Miller of Camden, Mich.; three grandchildren, J.R., Torri and Heather Treace; and four great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a brother, Raymond Broadstone, and four sisters, Marie Hawkins, Evelyn McKinney, Dora Toney and Esther Bush.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at Smith & Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with the Rev. George Cecil of Cornerstone Wesleyan Church officiating. Burial will be at Thorn Cemetery, Ormas.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Frederick Tieman

COLUMBIA CITY — Frederick M. Tieman, 62, of Tri Lakes, died Sunday, May 25, 2003, in Columbus, Ohio.

Mr. Tieman

He was an electrician for International Harvester for several years and retired from General Motors. He had graduated from Avilla High School. He and his family lived in Fort Wayne and Monroeville before moving to Tri Lakes in 1987. He had served in the U.S. Army in Germany. He was a member of St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, Fort Wayne Corvette Club and American Legion Post 98.

He was born in Fort Wayne March 7, 1941, to Archie C. and Lottie J. (Falba) Tieman.

He married Carol A. Dorsam June 17, 1967. She died July 11, 2001.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Matthew Tieman of West Palm Beach, Fla., and Andrew and Catherine Tieman of Newburyport, Mass.; a daughter and son-in-law, Ann and Dean Karbler of Columbus, Ohio; three grandchildren, Austin and Tyler Karbler and Emma Tieman; and a sister, Barbara Rauschenbach of Jeffersonville.

Services will be Thursday at 3 p.m. at St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, Columbia City, with Father Dale Bauman officiating. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. and rosary at 4:30 p.m. at Smith & Sons Funeral Home and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Masses or the Carol Tieman Scholarship Fund.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
27

Eugene Eash

MIDDLEBURY — Eugene Ray Eash, 1 year, 7 months, 15 days, died at 11:53 a.m. Monday, May 26, 2003, at his home of an accidental drowning.

He was born in LaGrange County Oct. 11, 2001, to Galen and Ida Sue (Bontrager) Eash. They survive in Middlebury.

Also surviving are his grandparents, David and Anna Bontrager of Middlebury and Orla and Lydia Eash of Shipshewana; great-grandmothers, Barbara Yoder and Ida Bontrager, both of Goshen; and four sisters, Wanda, Anna Mae, Doreen and Laura Jean Eash, all at home.

Services will be Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the residence of John D. Bontrager, 10138 C.R. 18, Middlebury, with Bishop Sam Bontrager and home ministers of the Old Order Amish Church officiating. Burial will be in Yoder Cemetery, Middlebury.

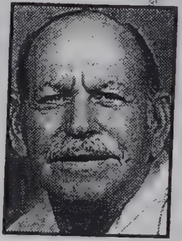
Calling will be Wednesday after 1 p.m. and all day Thursday at the family's home, 1225 N. C.R.1200W, Middlebury.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

This obituary is being republished with additional information.

Rodney Barth

INVERNESS, Fla. — Rodney N. Barth, 80, of Lake Panasoffkee, Fla., died Friday, May 23, 2003, in Inverness, Fla.


Mr. Barth

Mr. Barth had been a resident of Sumter County, Fla., since 1988. He was a former resident of Kendallville and a longtime resident at Story Lake near Hudson.

He retired in 1978 from Dana Corp. at Fort Wayne, where he was an inspector with 31 years of service. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the Army Air Corps.

He was born Feb. 21, 1923, in Fort Wayne to Chris and Beatrice (Miner) Barth.

Surviving are one daughter, Deborah Steury of Auburn; two sons, Robert N. Barth of Fountain City and Steven L. Barth of Auburn; two sisters, Patricia Fox of Fort Wayne and June Grider of Sturgis, Mich.; 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; and his loving canine companion, Patch.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Elizabeth (Ewen) Barth in June 1964; his second wife, Jean Van Camp in October 1998; one brother, Robert Barth of Churubusco; one sister, Jean Lewis of Fort Wayne; one granddaughter, Dawn Barth, on Feb. 24, 1998; and one son, Michael R. Barth of Auburn, on April 13, 2003.

Funeral services were today at 1:30 p.m. in the Florida National Cemetery at Bushnell, Fla., with Father Peter Sagorski officiating. Military honors were rendered by the Marine Corps League 708. Burial was in the Florida National Cemetery.

A memorial service is being planned for family and friends in this area at a later date.

Arrangements were by Purcell Funeral Home of Bushnell, Fla.

Memorials are to the Michael Barth Art Scholarship Fund, 508 Greenbriar Blvd., Auburn, IN 46706.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
28

Catherine Thomas

AVILLA — Catherine E. Thomas, 87, died Tuesday, May 27, 2003, at 2:05 a.m. in Provena Sacred Heart Home at Avilla.

Mrs. Thomas

Mrs. Thomas worked at Creek Chub Bait Co. in Garrett, General Electric in Fort Wayne and Riley's Gun Store in Avilla, from which she retired.

She had resided in Avilla for the past four years after spending most of her life in Garrett. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Garrett.

She was born Feb. 15, 1916, in Auburn to Dennis and Eva (Masters) Farrington.

She married Hiram L. Thomas on Feb. 15, 1942, in Garrett. He died Oct. 9, 1982.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Jerry W. and Deb Thomas of Garrett and Mike Thomas of Portland, Ore.; a grandson, Travis Thomas of Garrett; a great-grandson, Tristan Thomas of Garrett; two nephews, Gene Farrington of Garrett and Tom Farrington of Altadena, Calif.; two nieces, Margaret Farrington of Garrett and Laura Lea Johnston of Milford, Ohio; and several cousins.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Kermit Farrington Sr., Orville Farrington and William Farrington.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in Christian Union Cemetery of rural Garrett. Lloyd Mealer and Tom Novy will officiate.

Calling will be Thursday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett.

Memorials are to Provena Sacred Heart Home.

Condolences may be sent to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Earl Houser

FORT WAYNE — Earl J. Houser, 92, died Tuesday, May 27, 2003, at home.

He had worked in installation and maintenance with Murrey Equipment for 18 years, retiring in 1973. He enjoyed fishing and was a member of Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are three daughters, Louann Griffiths and Judith Quinn, both of Fort Wayne, and Elaine Moser of Wolcottville; a son, Charles Houser of Urbana, Ohio; two sisters, Rosella Schaab of Fort Wayne and Claire Honkanen of Isle of the Palms, S.C.; 14 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his wife, Claudine Houser, who died March 17, 2003; and a daughter, Jacqueline Schneider, who died in 1999.

Services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church, 7215 St. Joe Road. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. and rosary at 4:30 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Maplewood Park Funeral Home, 4017 Maplecrest Road, and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Masses or Heartland Home Health Care & Hospice.

Arliss Powers

KIRWIN, Kan. — Arliss A. Powers, 79, died Sunday, May 25, 2003, in Phillipsburg, Kan.

Mrs. Powers was a homemaker. She was born Sept. 6, 1923, in Bartley, Neb., to Joseph Ivan Capps and Lenora Violet (Stanton) Capps.

She married Robert Edward Powers in April 1963 in Denver. He died May 3, 1974.

Surviving are two sons, Terry Long of Ligonier and Dennis Long of Commerce City, Colo.; a daughter, Londa Harter of Kirwin, Kan.; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in Kirwin Cemetery.

Calling is today from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. and Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon at Olliff-Boeve Memorial Chapel, Phillipsburg, Kan.

Memorials are to the Arliss Powers Memorial Fund.

Services Held

FORT WAYNE — Services for **Edna C. Ormsby** were held Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, with Dr. Frederick Meuter III officiating. Burial was in Prospect Cemetery in Ossian.

Active pallbearers were Philip J. Wilson Jr., Gary Platt, Kent "Norm" Hesterman, David G. Johnson, Kevin L. Richter, Brian Henninger, Joseph Hare and Todd Zimmerman. Honorary pallbearers were Kenneth Williams, Robert Richter, Keith Henninger and David Hall.

Lewis Miller

ROME CITY — Lewis Bender Miller, 73, died at 3:15 p.m. Monday, May 26, 2003, at home after a utility tractor accident.

Mr. Miller

He was a minister at Lake Bethel Mennonite Church since April 1986. He had previously served at Elmwood Mennonite Church in Kendallville until 1970. He retired in 2000 after working for 27 years as a social worker at the Northeastern Center. For the last five years he has been a counselor at ARC Opportunities.

He lived at Sylvan Lake for 10 years and previously lived in Kendallville from 1953 to 1993. He was a member of Bethel Mennonite Church. He enjoyed carpentry, photography, fishing, bird watching, and spending time with his grandchildren. He and his wife traveled to India, Hong Kong, China and Africa.

He was born in Goshen July 12, 1929, to Ira and Fannie Mae (Bender) Miller.

He married Lois Mary Hartman on Nov. 23, 1950, in Elkhart. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Jolene K. and J. David Pettigrew of Fort Wayne; a son and daughter-in-law, Philip L. and Jennifer (Brell) Miller of Molene, Ill.; five grandchildren, Nathanial, Natalie and Shaley Pettigrew, and Veronica and Ian Miller; two brothers, Melvin Miller of South Bend and K. Marion Miller of Union, Mich.; and one sister, Lillian Gingerich of Goshen.

Preceding him in death were two infant daughters, Janet E. and Nancy J. Miller; and one infant son, Evan Lewis Miller.

Graveside services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville, followed by celebration of life services at 11:30 a.m. at Shore Mennonite Church, 7[illegible] W. U.S. 20, Shipshewana. Pastors Tim Lichti, Mervin Miller and Galen Johns will officiate at both services.

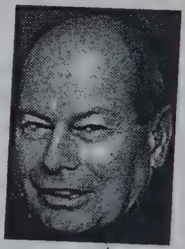
Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Shore Mennonite Church.

Memorials are to ARC Opportunities and Merry Lea Environmental Center.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, Kendallville, is in charge of arrangements.

Harold Brandon

ASHLEY — Harold L. Brandon, 66, died Monday, May 26, 2003, at 11:57 a.m. in Lutheran Hospital of Fort Wayne.


Mr. Brandon

Mr. Brandon worked as a machine operator at Rieke Corp. in Auburn for 28 years, retiring in 1996. He attended Son Light Church in Angola. He was a member of the Orland post of the American Legion and a former member of the Ashley Volunteer Fire Department.

He was born June 18, 1936, in Auburn to Melvin and Sophia (Draggoo) Brandon.

He married Sandra Shultz on May 10, 1958, in Auburn. She survives.

Also surviving are one son, Timothy Brandon of Auburn; three daughters, Lorraine Fretz of Hudson, Marsha Curcio of Butler and Diana Brite of Decatur; one sister, Evelyn Casselman of Auburn; and six grandchildren, Katie Brandon, Adam Brite, Brody Fretz, and Frankie, Patrick and Ashleigh Curcio.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Elizabeth Brandon; two brothers, Robert and Richard Brandon; and one son-in-law, Dan Brite.

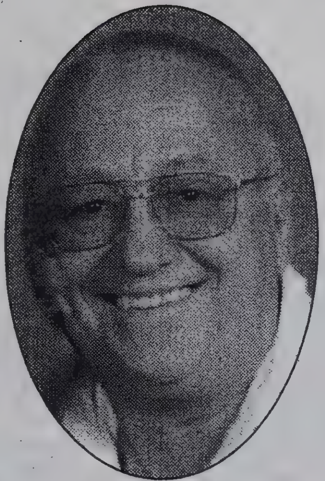
Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. The Rev. Dean Snyder will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery of Auburn.

Calling is today from noon to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Friends Cancer Survivors Support Group.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

ALBION NEW ERA
MAY 2003
28



Frederick Tieman

COLUMBIA CITY – Frederick M. Tieman, 62, a resident of Tri Lakes, died Sunday, May 25, 2003, in Columbus, Ohio, where he had been staying for the past three weeks.

He was born March, 1941, in Fort Wayne, Indiana, a son of Archie C. and Lottie J. (Falba) Tieman. He graduated from Avilla High School.

During his tour of duty in the United States Army, he served in Germany.

On June 17, 1967, he was united in marriage to Carol A. Dorsam. They made their home in Fort Wayne, later moving to Monroeville for a few years. They moved to their home at Tri Lakes in 1987. Mrs. Tieman died July 11, 2001.

He was employed as an electrician for International harvester for many years and retired from General Motors.

He is a member of St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, Fort Wayne Corvette Club and American Legion Post #98.

He is survived by two sons, Matthew Tieman of West Palm Beach, Florida and Andrew (Catherine) Tieman of Newburyport, Massachusetts; a daughter, Ann (Dean) Karbler of Columbus, Ohio; three grandchildren, Austin and Tyler Karbler and Emma Tieman; and a sister, Barbara Rauschenbach of Jeffersonville, Indiana.

The funeral mass will be held at 3 p.m., Thursday, May 29, 2003, at St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, 315 South Line Street, Columbia City with Father Dale Bauman as celebrant. The burial will be in the Catholic Cemetery. The visitation will be from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Smith and Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, and one hour before the service at the church on Thursday.

A rosary service will be held at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

For those who wish, memorials may be directed to masses or Carol Tieman Scholarship Fund.

Thomas Lindsey

DUNEDIN, FL – Thomas W. Lindsey, 62, died Friday, May 23, 2003, at his home in Dunedin, Fl.

He was born in Kendallville and moved to Dunedin in 1996 from Houghton, MI.

Mr. Lindsey was a U.S. Army veteran of Vietnam and a resident counselor for 28 years at Michigan Tech University.

He was a member of VFW Post 2550 and Kappa Delta Rho.

Surviving are his mother, Martha E. Lindsey of Dunedin; and sisters, Victoria Lindsey from Dunedin and Judith Leatherman of Albion; one niece; two nephews; and one great-nephew.

A memorial service was held May 29, 2003, at the VFW Post #2550 in Dunedin, FL.

Anna Cummins

ALBION – Anna M. Cummins, 84, a resident of Albion since November 2002, died at 2:20 p.m., Sunday, May 25, 2003, in the emergency room at Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

She was born February 19, 1919, in Indianapolis, Indiana a daughter of Walter and Ethel (Malcolm) Broadstone, She completed her education in Indianapolis.

On June 21, 1951, she was united in marriage to Seth Cummins. In 1955, they moved to Loon Lake from Indianapolis. They later made their home in Etna, North Webster, and Albion before moving to Kimmell in April 1979. Mr. Cummins died November 2, 1974.

A factory worker, she retired from Hamlin in Topeka in 1980 with five years of service.

She was a member of Cornerstone Wesleyan Church.

She is survived by a daughter, JoAnne (Marvin) Miller of Camden, MI; three grandchildren, J.R. Treace, Torri Treace and Heather Treace; and four great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a brother, Raymond Broadstone and four sisters, Marie Hawkins, Evelyn McKinney, Dora Toney and Esther Bush.

The funeral service was held May 29, 2003, at Smith and Sons Funeral Home in Columbia City, with Rev. George Cecil, pastor of Cornerstone Wesleyan Church, officiating. The burial was in Thorn Cemetery, Ormas.

Carolyn Kahn

FORT WAYNE – Carolyn R. Kahn, 67, of Fort Wayne, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

Born in Bluffton, she retired from "E" Systems in Huntington.

She is survived by her husband, Lester; sons, Larry of Churubusco and Cary of Fort Wayne; daughters, Cathy Bowman of Fort Wayne, Leslie Diane Burroughs of Decatur, and Michelle (Greg) Campbell of Albion; a sister, Donna Brown and a brother, William Bennett of Bluffton; 18 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Funeral service is 2 p.m. today at the Goodwin Memorial Chapel, Bluffton. Visitation is from noon until service time today. Burial at Fairview Cemetery, Bluffton.

Memorials are to the New Life Church, Fort Wayne.

ALBION NEW ERA
MAY 2003
28

Donald Offord

AVILLA – Donald A. Offord, 72, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

He was a machine operator for over 30 years at Zollner Piston in Fort Wayne, and also worked part-time securing parts and running errands for Avilla Motor Works.

He grew up in Avilla and moved to Fort Wayne after serving the U.S.Army as a sergeant in the Korean Conflict. He moved back to Avilla in 1984.

He was past commander of American Legion Post #240 of Avilla in 1991 and 1995. He enjoyed bowling, Nascar, being outdoors and camping with his wife.

He was born November 29, 1930, in Fort Wayne, to Basil and Faye Etta (Truelove) Offord. On May 24, 1956, at Hopewell, he married Emma Jean Huff, and she preceded him in death on December 17, 1997. Two brothers, Ralph Offord and James Decker, and a sister, Dorothy Sloffer, are also deceased.

Surviving are a daughter, Donna Jean Offord of Avilla; a son, Kenneth C. Offord of Columbia City; two granddaughters, Veronica M. Gabet of Fort Wayne and Nicole S. Gabet of Bluffton; a sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Ed Hindenlang of Avilla; and a brother, Ronald B. Offord of Fort Wayne.

Services were held Wednesday, May 28, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with the Rev. Ken Robinson officiating. Burial was in Avilla Cemetery, with military rites by American Legion Post #240.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Edna C. Ormsby

Edna C. Ormsby, 88, died Tuesday, May 20, 2003, at Lutheran Medical Office in Fort Wayne.

Born in Darke Co., OH, she was a secretary with Troy Towel Supply for 42 years. She was an avid reader who enjoyed bowling and golf and was active in the Mission Circle at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, where she was a member.

Survivors include daughters, Catherine "Betty" Williams of New Haven, Judith E. Richter of Albion and Nancy L. Henniger of Fort Wayne; step-daughters, Mary Fechner of Bakersfield, CA and Waneta "Terri" Cummick of Fort Wayne; sisters, Esther R Morgan of Richmond, IN, Helen M. Mikesell of Onyx, CA, Thelma Harshbarger of Bradford, OH and Velma Ingle of Bradford, OH; 12 grandchildren, Philip "Jerry" Wilson, Jr., Catherine Platt and Cynthia Hesterman, all of Huntertown, Karen Johnson of Churubusco, Kelly Richter of Albion, Lori Beth Miodus of Fort Wayne, Lori Fisher and Lisa Samra, both of New Haven, Kevin Richter of Albion, Brian Henninger of Warsaw and Stacy Hare and Melissa Zimmerman, both of Fort Wayne; 22 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Mrs. Ormsby was preceded in death by her husband, Argus L. in 1967 and one grandson, Steven Robert Wilson.

Services were held Saturday, May 24, 2003, at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne. Burial was in Prospect Cemetery, Ossian.

Memorials are to Cancer Services of Allen County or St. John's Women of E.L.C.A.

Nellie Worrell

FORT WAYNE – Nellie B. Worrell, 60, died Friday, May 23, 2003, in the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana at Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker, a 60 year resident of Fort Wayne and a member of the Tillman Road Church of God.

She was born November 11, 1942, in Middlesboro, KY, to John L. and Lulu-Mae (Smith) Gray. They preceded her in death.

Surviving are three sons, Eddie Worrell of Woodstock, GA, Charles Hall of Scottsburg and Jack Fultz of Dallas; two daughters, Jani Suarez of Woodstock, Ga, and Hannah Johnson of Kokomo; 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild; two brothers, John Gray of Avilla and Verlin Gray of Fort Wayne; three half-brothers, James Hood of Liberty Center, Finley Hood of Fort Wayne, and William Hood of Fort Wayne; and three half-sisters, Dallie Snyder of New Haven, Mary Jane Romero of Ossian and Deborah Spillers of Fort Wayne.

Services were held Tuesday, May 27, 2003, at Thomas Funeral Home in Garrett with Pastor George Chatham officiating. Burial was in Huntertown Cemetery.

Memorials are to the Lutheran Home.

Berniece Troop

MULBERRY, FL – Berniece (Mankey) Troop, 83, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Wednesday, May 7, 2003, in Mulberry.

She was born in Berne, IN on April 4, 1920, and was a member of the American Legion Post 72 auxiliary in Mulberry.

She worked at Sears and U.S. Rubber Co. before moving to Florida in 1974.

Surviving are two daughters, Victoria Mims and Carlita Edwards, both of Mulberry; two sons, Lewis Troop Jr. of St. Cloud FL, and John (Joe) Shaw of Churubusco; a sister-in-law, Grace Ley of Avilla, a sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Kate and Charles Albin of Tuscola, IL; 14 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lewis, in 1993; a daughter, Gloria Rainey in 1981; a sister, Ruth Hall; and a brother, Chris Mankey.

Services were held May 11, 2003, at Seigler Funeral Home in Mulberry. Burial was in Willow Oak Cemetery, Willow Oak.

Robert Cripe Sr.

AUBURN — Robert R. Cripe Sr., 74, died Sunday, May 25, 2003, at 5 p.m. at DeKalb Memorial Hospital. He had been taken there earlier in the day from The Laurels of DeKalb Nursing Home in Butler, where he had been a patient for the past eight months.

Mr. Cripe

Mr. Cripe worked at Hardware Wholesalers for 10 years and retired in 1990 as a truck driver for Gassafy Wholesale Florist Inc. in Fort Wayne.

He was born in Whitley County on Oct. 30, 1928, to Earnie P. and Bertha (Zolman) Cripe.

As a young man he lived at Collins and later moved west of Columbia City. He spent all of his adult life in Whitley and DeKalb counties.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Kathy and Darrell Crone of Angola and Sue Cripe of Lorton, Va.; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Robert Cripe Jr. of Virginia Beach, Va., and Mike and Lori Cripe of Kendallville; two brothers and a sister-in-law, Alfred Cripe and Delbert and Shirley Cripe, all of Columbia City; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Opal Johnston of Churubusco and Lucille and Donald Dodd of Constantine, Mich.; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Charles, Earnie, Edgar and Eugene Cripe; and five sisters, Mildred Beatrice Brumbaugh, Marguerite Striegle, Dorothy Dodd, Elizabeth Boggs and Beverly Summers.

Services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Sheets and Childs Funeral Home, Churubusco. Pastor Dick Hostetler of Broadway Christian Church, Fort Wayne, will officiate. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco.

Calling will be Saturday from 11 a.m. until the service.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@sheetsfuneral-home.com.

Virginia Rundles

LAGRANGE — Virginia M. Rundles, 86, died Wednesday, May 28, 2003, at Life Care Center.

She was a homemaker. She moved to LaGrange from Roseville, Mich., in 1971. She was a member of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church and the LaGrange County AARP.

She was born in LaGrange June 28, 1916, to Harry M. and Idella B. (Heffner) Sherman.

She married D. Herbert Rundles Sept. 2, 1939, in LaGrange. He died June 2, 1992.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Kay M. and Kevin Myers of Mongo; a son and daughter-in-law, H. Sherman and Linda Rundles of Shelby Township, Mich.; a granddaughter, Shirley Slocum; and a great-granddaughter, Kylie Slocum, both of Marysville, Calif.

Preceding her in death were a granddaughter, Joanne Rundles, who died in November 1989; and a sister, Dorothy Humphries, who died Nov. 19, 1980.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, with the Revs. Stephen Flynn and Russell Hepler officiating. Burial will be at Woodland Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church or the LaGrange County Food and Clothes Basket.

James Henson

LAGRANGE — James E. Henson, 94, died Tuesday, May 27, 2003, at Kindred Hospital in Brea, Calif.

He retired from Bendix Corp. in South Bend. He moved from South Bend to LaGrange in 1965. He was a member of the Church of Christ in LaGrange, the Knights of Pythias, Pythian Sisters and Knights of Khorassan.

He was born in Mounds, Ill., March 12, 1909, to James R. and Anna B. (Tapley) Henson.

He married Lois L. Gray Sept. 17, 1938, in Wickliffe, Ky. She died July 7, 1999.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Janice and Robert Wharton of Fullerton, Calif.; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Preceding him in death were a sister and a brother.

Services will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, with Brother Jay Tyler officiating. Burial will be at Woodland Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Calling will be Saturday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Services Held

AUBURN — Services for **Anita A. Bower** were held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Auburn, with the Rev. William Kaster officiating. Burial was at Roselawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Pallbearers were Rob Kramer, Caroline Bower, Caitlin Kramer, Steve Abbott, Glenn Abbott and Craig Abbott.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, Kendallville, was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Dale S. Parr** were held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. Ken Ludwig officiating. Burial was at Circle Cemetery, Hudson.

Pallbearers were Phil Meyer, Chuck Parker, Tom Parker, Kurt Krohn, Bob Shire and Joe Shire.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Forrest O. Strawser** were held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dr. Dan Barker officiating. Burial was at South Milford Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Maynard Strawser, Robert Strawser, Stephen Strawser and Randall Strawser.

Steven Pease

FORT WAYNE — Steven L. Pease, 43, died Tuesday, May 27, 2003, at home.

He was a welder for P.M.I.

He was a native of Van Wert, Ohio.

Surviving are his mother, Rita Pease of New Haven; three brothers, William Pease of New Haven, Raymond Pease of Hudson, James Pease of Illinois; and his fiance, Denise King of Fort Wayne.

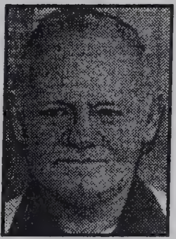
Preceding him in death were his brother, Mark; and his father, Dallas.

Graveside services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at I.O.O.F. Cemetery, New Haven.

E. Harper & Son Funeral Home, New Haven, is in charge of arrangements.

Don Oliver Jr.

KENDALLVILLE — Don LaVon Oliver Jr., 72, of Roswell, N.M., and formerly of Kendallville, died Saturday, April 26, 2003, at Eastern New Mexico Medical Center.


Mr. Oliver

While in Kendallville he served as a firefighter. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving for seven years during the Korean conflict.

He moved from Kendallville with his family to Roswell in 1993, where he was a member of the Church of the Nazarene and the V.F.W.

He was born in Valparaiso May 9, 1930, to Don LaVon Sr. and Artie Mae (Conkling) Oliver.

He married Ruth Ann Schlegel March 15, 1969, in Dunkirk. She resides in Kendallville.

Also surviving are five sons, Rick L. Oliver of Kendallville, Chris L. Oliver of Roswell, Christopher M. Latta of Kendallville, and Robert L. Oliver and Michael Oliver, both of Germany; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Dorothy M. and Merrill D. Bigelow of Roswell and Ethel M. Mapp of Midland; six grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; one great-nephew; five other brothers-in-law; and four sisters-in-law.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Robert l. Oliver.

Memorial services will be held at Lake View Cemetery Wednesday at 4 p.m.

Memorials to the American Cancer Society, 5800 Lomas Blvd., N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87110.

John Inman

LAGRANGE — John W. Inman, 96, formerly of LaGrange, died Thursday, May 29, 2003, at Sarasota Memorial Hospital in Sarasota, Fla.

He was a retired cableman for AT&T and the founder of Lewis Mobile Home Park in LaGrange. He lived in LaGrange and South Bend before moving to Florida. He was a 50-year member of Meridian Sun Lodge 76 F&AM of LaGrange, Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Wayne and Royal Arch Chapter of Angola.

He was born in Indianapolis Feb. 3, 1907, to James A. and Mary O. (Dinwidda) Inman.

He married Golda M. Melrose March 27, 1929, in Logansport. She died Sept. 28, 1997.

Surviving are two sons, Gerald L. Inman of Goshen and David Inman of Tampa, Fla.; one sister, X.Z. Gram of Springfield, Ohio; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were two sons, Carl Inman, who died July 21, 1941, and Raymond Inman, who died Nov. 31, 1941.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Jeremy Helmuth officiating. Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be Sunday from 6 to 8 p.m. with Masonic services at 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Lisa Nash

NEW HAVEN — Lisa Herczog Engle Seiler Nash, 54, died Thursday, May 29, 2003, in Parkview Hospital at Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

She was born March 21, 1949, in Auburn to Andrew and Sally Herczog. They preceded her in death.

Mrs. Nash

Surviving are her husband, Michael A. Nash; one daughter, Cara Kuntz of Fort Wayne; one son, Jeff Seiler of Leo-Cedarville; two sisters, Amber Fields of Indianapolis and Linn Swogger of Kendallville; and five grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday in the Church of the Good Shepherd at Leo-Cedarville. The Rev. Rick Zehr will officiate. Burial will be in Highland Park Cemetery.

Calling will be Sunday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Hockemeyer Miller Funeral Home, 6131 St. Joe Road, Fort Wayne, and Monday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Cancer Services of Allen County, The Kidney Foundation, the American Diabetes Association and the Church of the Good Shepherd.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
30

Mildred Moffett

FREMONT — Mildred Mae Moffett, 99, died Thursday, May 29, 2003, in Coldwater, Mich.

Mrs. Moffett was born July 11, 1903, in Toledo, Ohio, to Henry and Louisa (Perry) Watkins. She married LaVern Moffett on Aug. 31, 1922, in LaGrange, and he preceded her in death on Nov. 5, 1980.

She was a former Orland resident.

She was a homemaker. She enjoyed crocheting, flowers, her cats and square dancing.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Paul and Donna Moffett of Fremont; three grandchildren, Jim Moffett of LaGrange, Judy Kelley of Toledo, Ohio, and Linda Peerboom of St. Petersburg, Fla.; two great-grandsons, Sean and Ryan Kelley; two great-granddaughters, Melanie and Melinda Peerboom; and a great-great-granddaughter, Natille Kelley.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Beams Funeral Home, Fremont, with the Rev. Jon Bruney officiating. Calling will be from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. today.

Burial will be in Greenlawn Cemetery, Orland.

Memorials are to donor's choice.

Area Deaths

ANGOLA — **John W. Kelley**, 59, died Wednesday at 7:50 p.m. in Lutheran Hospital at Fort Wayne. Services will be held Monday at 10 a.m. in Thomas Funeral Home of Garrett. Calling is Sunday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
31

Peter Kirchner

AUBURN — Peter A. Kirchner, 63, died Wednesday, May 28, 2003, in Presque Isle, Mich.

Mr. Kirchner proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam conflict, where he was an attorney. He ended his service after 34 years as a colonel.

He then began serving his country as a liaison to the U.S. Military Academy. He worked for Ford Motor Co. for more than 28 years before retiring.

Mr. Kirchner served as the planning commission chairman in Sumpter Township, Mich., for more than 15 years. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and boating on the Great Lakes.

Mr. Kirchner was a member of Cedar Lake Church of Christ in Waterloo and a 40-year member of the Ashley Masonic Lodge 614. His family was the most important thing in his life.

He was born Aug. 31, 1939, in Fort Wayne to Paul and Ruth Ann (Larimore) Kirchner.

He married Nancy E. Phillips in Cedar Lake Church of Christ on Aug. 19, 1961, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Robert P. and Katrenia Kirchner of Belleville, Mich., and Matthew J. and Brandy Kirchner of Ypsilanti, Mich.; three grandchildren, Nathan, Sean and Seth Kirchner; a sister, Marsha Kirchner of Irmo, S.C.; an uncle, Gordon Max Hower of Minnesota; a sister-in-law and spouse, Linda P. and Timothy Colbart of Auburn; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Cedar Lake Church of Christ in Waterloo. The Rev. Paul Simpson Duke will officiate. Burial will be in Waterloo Cemetery with military graveside services.

Calling is from 9 a.m. to the time of services at the church.

Memorials are to Michigan Heart and Vascular Institute, P.O. Box 971, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-0971.

Johnson Funeral Home, Hudson, is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be sent to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Clyde Schemahorn

LAGRANGE — Clyde E. Schemahorn, 96, died Thursday, May 29, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange.

Mr. Schemahorn was a retired attorney at law. He was admitted to the Indiana Bar in 1938, and was an honorary member of the Indiana Bar Association. He lived his entire life in LaGrange County.

He was born Aug. 26, 1906, [illegible] LaGrange County to Mathias and Lillian (Shoup) Schemahorn.

He married Edith I. Hanlon Oct. 28, 1924, in Centreville, Mich., and she survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Virginia Mingus of Sturgis, Mich.; three sons, Merlin L. "Bud" Schemahorn of Wolcottville, Keith E. Schemahorn of Sturgis and Phillip R. Schemahorn of Mishawaka; two sisters, Gladys Girton and Arlene Holzaepfel, both of Sturgis; a brother, Marlo Schermerhorn of Lancaster, N.Y.; nine grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren and 16 great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, a granddaughter and a great-granddaughter.

Services will be Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange. The Rev. Brian VanOsdol will officate. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery, Howe.

Calling is Monday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

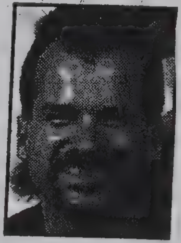
Memorials are to First Church of God in LaGrange.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY Kendallville, Indiana
31

Brad Shepherd

KENDALLVILLE — Brad Eugene Shepherd, 38, died Thursday, May 29, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Mr. Shepherd was a 1984 graduate of East Noble High School and attended the Independent Full Gospel Church in Ashley.


Mr. Shepherd

He was born May 14, 1965, in Kendallville to Loyd and Vada (Edwards) Shepherd. They survive in Kendallville.

Also surviving are his fiance, Terry Manns of Kendallville; two sons, Austin and Dustin Shepherd of Kendallville; three brothers, Loyd Shepherd Jr., Gene Shepherd and Michael Shepherd, all of Kendallville; a sister, Margaret Wisniewski of Kendallville; three nephews, Tyler Shepherd and Shawn and Chad Prince, all of Kendallville; and a niece, Summer Shepherd of Kendallville.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville. The Rev. Sam Weimer will officiate. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery following the services.

Calling is Sunday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

This is obituary is being reprinted with changes to the spellings originally provided by the funeral home.

Lisa Nash

NEW HAVEN — Lisa Herczeg Engle Seiler Nash, 54, died Thursday, May 29, 2003, in Parkview Hospital at Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Nash

She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

She was born March 21, 1949, in Auburn. Her parents, Andre Herczeg and Sally Thimler Herczeg Engle. They preceded her in death.

Surviving are her husband, Michael A. Nash; one daughter, Cara Kuntz of Fort Wayne; one son, Jeff Seiler of Leo-Cedarville; two sisters, Amber Field of Indianapolis and Linn Swogger of Kendallville; and five grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday in the Church of the Good Shepherd at Leo-Cedarville. The Rev. Rick Zehr will officiate. Burial will be in Highland Park Cemetery.

Calling is Sunday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Hockemeyer Miller Funeral Home, 6131 St. Joe Road, Fort Wayne, and Monday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Cancer Services of Allen County, The Kidney Foundation, the American Diabetes Association and the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Aline Dodds

ANGOLA — Aline M. (Burrell) Dodds, 87, died Friday, May 30, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Dodds formerly worked at Cameron Hospital and Aro Corp. in Angola.

She was a member of Angola United Methodist Church and York Homemakers Club, and her hobbies included quilt making.

She was born April 10, 1916 in Blakeslee, Ohio, to Frederick and Marie (Durr) Wandel. They preceded her in death.

She married Marion Russell Burrell on Jan. 27, 1934, in Hamilton. He died Jan. 7, 1968. She then married Edward M. Dodds Dec. 31, 1980, in Greenwood. He died Dec. 31, 1993.

Surviving are five daughters, Joann Bistel of Coldwater, Mich., June Person of San Diego, Calif., Janice Wilson of Frazier, Mich., Rosalee Parrish of Fremont and Nancy Polzien of Burnsville, N.C.; four sons, John Burrell of Angola, Jerry Burrell of Troy, Mich., and James Burrell and Jack Burrell, both of Fremont; a brother, Edward Wandel of Hudson; 26 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two sisters and two brothers.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Beams Funeral Home in Fremont. The Rev. Laurence Smith will officiate. Burial will be in Fremont Cemetery.

Calling is Sunday from 2-6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association, Department 77 — 3968, Chicago, IL 60678-3968.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

On this Memorial Day, we pay tribute to our community's fallen heroes! For a century's worth of sacrifice, we salute Noble County's war dead, those who selflessly offered their lives for our country. May we never forget them and what they did for us all?

WORLD WAR I

Biddle, Roy Henry (1892-1918, Rose Hill Cemetery)

Bishop, Charles E.

Glenwood Brumbaugh was gassed while fighting in the trenches of France. His exposure culminated into tuberculosis, from which he died in an overseas hospital. He was formerly of Albion.

Egolf, Fred Adam (November 17, 1897 - October 5, 1918, Christian Chapel Cemetery)

Gabet, Walter Frank

Gandy, Tony Lewis (1897-1918, Christian Chapel Cemetery)

Haller, Glyndon C. (1888-1919, Lake View Cemetery)

Harrison, Ralph D. (died October 7, 1918, Oak Park Cemetery)

Joslin, Ray Alanson (1898-1919, Orange Cemetery)

Miller, Raymond E.

Ostrander, Lloyd G. (1898-1918, Oak Park Cemetery)

Reeve, Floyd L. (1898-1917, Sparta Cemetery)

Claude Ressler died on April 9, 1917, from apoplexy while serving at Fort Thomas, Kentucky. Prior to war, he was an Albion blacksmith.

William Barnum served as a bomber pilot in movie star, Captain Jimmy Stewart's squadron. In February 1944, he was lost over Gotha, Germany, while on his eighth mission. He was formerly of Albion.

Howard Blackman was killed in a training flight crash, while piloting a P-51 Mustang from Dale Mabry Field in Tallahassee, Florida. He was an Avilla High School and Ball State University graduate. Prior to war, he served as a schoolteacher.

Lawrence Brechbill was killed on August 13, 1944 when his plane received a direct hit from enemy fire while on a bombing run over Rouen, France. He hailed from Kendallville.

Robert Burke was killed in action at Guadalcanal on October 14, 1942, while serving with the Marine Corp. He was formerly of Ligonier.

Victor Busz died while stationed at Camp Haan, California on August 27, 1944. He served with the Quartermaster Department and prior to war, was an Albion resident.

Charles Leland Caldwell was killed in action in August of 1944, while serving with the U. S. Infantry in France.

Doyne Casselman was killed in action on Leyte in the Philippines on December 17, 1944, while serving with the paratroopers. He was a 1941 graduate of Kendallville High School.

Luther Clyburn was killed in action on August 1, 1943, while serving with the infantry in North Africa. Previously wounded, he returned to the field less than a month before his death. He hailed from Wawaka.

Paul DeBrular was killed on June 4, 1944 in England, while serving with the Air Corp.

Bernard Duesler went down with his submarine on February 4, 1945. The USS Barbel was hit and sunk by enemy bombs near the Palawan Passage. There were no survivors. He was an Albion High School class of 1942 graduate.

Dukes, Wilbur (June 2, 1913 - March 9, 1945, Oak Park Cemetery)

Albert Elson was killed in action at Okinawa on April 17, 1945 while serving with the Marine Corp. He was formerly of Kendallville and Cromwell.

Merritt Fausnaugh was lost on October 6, 1944 while on a bombing run over Berlin, Germany. He was a B-17 bomber pilot, having 27 missions to his credit. He hailed from Kimmell.

Maynard A. Faux was killed on January 29, 1945 while serving with the 337th Bomber Squadron, 96th Bomber Group in Europe. He is buried in Cambridge, England.

Dale Fike was killed in action in August of 1943 while serving in North Africa. He was a graduate of Kendallville High School.

Robert Gage was killed on October 3, 1944 ,when his plane was shot down while on a bombing run over Borneo. Prior to his demise, he piloted the B-24 bomber "Rat Sass" to 35 successful missions. He was a 1937 graduate of Albion High School.

James E. Gardner was killed on April 20, 1944, while serving in North Africa with the 831st Bomber Squadron, 485th Bomber Group.

Ray Godfrey was killed in action on February 6, 1945 at Zig Zag Pass, near Olangapo on the Philippine Island of Luzon. He died on his way to the hospital after being shot with a sniper's bullet while serving with Company L of the 152nd Infantry. He was a 1938 Cromwell High School graduate.

Willis Wayne Gonser was killed in action on August 5, 1944, while serving in France. He hailed from west of Rome City.

Reynolds, Glenn N. (1893-1918, Sparta Cemetery)

Rice, Charles E.

Seidel, Theodore J.

Sontchi, Clarence S. (1891-1918, Cosperville Cemetery)

Sprandel, Louis F. (December 3, 1889 - March 29, 1919, Lake View Cemetery)

Walburn, Aubrey E.

Watts, Leslie F.

Virgil Winebrenner was killed in action on November 12, 1917, while serving with the 18th Infantry in the trenches of France. He was a Merriam resident and former Wolf Lake High School student.

WORLD WAR II

Addis, Gerald J. (1918-1944, Christian Chapel Cemetery)

Roger E. Allen was killed in action near Gravelotte, France on September 12, 1944. He was a 1937 Wolf Lake High School graduate.

John J. Alt was killed in action on November 8, 1943, while serving with the 5th Army on the Italian Front. He was born and raised in Kendallville.

Ralph E. Conner of Green Township was killed in action at Anzio Beachhead, Italy on April 24, 1944.

Robert D. Conner was killed in action on March 3, 1945, at Iwo Jima while serving with the 28th Regiment, 5th Marine Division. He was a 1943 graduate of Churubusco High School. His brother, Ralph died in battle less than a year before him.

Delbert John Coy was fatally wounded in Normandy, France on July 15, 1944, while serving on a 81mm mortar crew. He was a 1937 Cromwell High School graduate.

Crothers, George, Jr.

Glenn S. Crum was killed in action at Luzon in the Philippines in August of 1945. He was formerly of near Brimfield.

Firestone, Alva

Paul Forker was killed on April 27, 1945 while piloting a C-47 on a practice flight from George Field near Lawrenceville, Illinois. He was a 1943 Albion High School graduate.

Robert Freeman died in the European War Zone on May 14, 1944. He was an Avilla High School class of 1941 graduate.

Virgil Earl Grable died from a brain tumor on February 26, 1945. He was from near Wolf Lake.

Hanes, Eugene L.

Harold E. Harrison died while serving with the 1st Division's, 5th Field Artillery Battalion. He is buried in Lorraine, France.

Hayward, E. D.

Henry, Lewis (August 22, 1913 - December 2, 1943, Avilla Cemetery)

John Hutchison was killed in action on February 19, 1945 in the first wave at Iwo Jima. He served with Company L, 25th Infantry, 4th Marine Division and was a 1942 Albion High School graduate.

Donald K. Imler was killed in action on April 8, 1945, while serving in Germany with the 90th Division. He was formerly of Avilla.

Claude Kennel was killed in action on Luzon in the Philippines on February 14, 1945, while serving with his paratrooper outfit. He was a 1941 graduate of Avilla High School.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Donald K. Parker was killed while serving as a navigator on his first bombing run over Japan. He was formerly of Jefferson Township, near Albion.

Arthur A. Perry was killed in an airplane crash on November 1, 1944, in France. He was a graduate of Wawaka High School.

Charles Beck Ralihan was killed in action on April 24, 1945, while serving with the 96th Infantry Division on Okinawa. Valedictorian of Kendallville High School's class of 1942, he was attending Purdue University when called into service.

Walter Rocco Rawleigh was killed in a crash on April 20, 1944, while taking off from Los Negros of the Admiralty Islands. As a top turret gunner aboard the B-24 "Cisco Kid," he had completed 47 successful missions with the 13th Air Force. He was formerly of Albion.

Paul Stienbarger died on April 7, 1943, from wounds received while battling in North Africa's Tunisia Campaign.

Dale E. Stockton died on July 26, 1944 from wounds received while serving in Normandy. A radio technician with the 30th Infantry Signal Corp, he received his fatal injuries on June 18, but lingered for over a month.

Edward C. Stoeckley was killed in action on February 8, 1945, at Manilla on Luzon in the Philippine Islands. He graduated from Kendallville High School in 1936 and from Indiana University in 1941.

Straus, Stanley (September 30, 1895 - May 15, 1944, Oak Park Cemetery)

Herman Swager was killed in action near Allersburg, Germany on April 21, 1945, only weeks before war's official end in Europe.

Billy J. Swinehart was killed in action in April of 1945 while serving with the 945th FABN in Germany. He hailed from northeast of Albion.

Francis J. Teders was killed in action over Italy on November 25, 1944 while serving as a Flight Officer in the Air Corp. He was a former Avilla resident.

Landis, Estyl Ray (November 6, 1906 - January 2, 1945, Christian Chapel Cemetery)

Long, Morse M.

Middleton, Willis

David Miller, Jr. was killed in action on January 4, 1944, when shot down over the Italian Front while returning from a bombing run. As a bombardier, he completed 17 successful missions. Prior to war, he hailed from Wawaka.

Morgan, William F.

Moser, Cletus Warren (July 13, 1921 - June 5, 1945, Oak Park Cemetery)

Myers, Marion (August 26, 1917 - February 14, 1943, Sweet Cemetery)

Ed McGinley died on September 4, 1944, near St. Lo from wounds received while laying siege to Brest, France. He served with the 115th Infantry, 29th Division, having survived a D-Day landing at Omaha Beach. He was a 1942 graduate of Albion High School.

Ostrander, Raymond (December 17, 1917 - March 16, 1945, Oak Park Cemetery)

Lyle Ott was killed in action near Cassino, Italy on February 16, 1944. He was a 1943 graduate of Cromwell High School.

William A. Rehwinkel was killed in action on January 4, 1945, in Belgium, while serving with his anti-tank unit at the Battle of the Bulge.

Robert Schemerhorn was severely wounded while serving with the 28th Infantry Division near Brest, France. He died in a field hospital on August 30, 1944. He hailed from near Brimfield.

Smith, Robert Dale

Clifford J. Snyder was killed in action on February 13, 1945 at Luzon in the Philippines, while serving with Company L of the 152nd Infantry, 38th Division. He was a 1938 Cromwell High School graduate.

Phillip S. Snyder was killed in action on September 12, 1944, while serving with the infantry in France. His death preceded his brother Clifford's by only five months.

Donald H. Spangler was killed in action on November 12, 1942 while taking part in the naval battle for Guadalcanal. He served aboard the USS Atlanta, which was sunk in the engagement. In 1943 the destroyer escort, USS Spangler was named and launched in his honor. Spangler was a 1936 graduate of Albion High School and a 1942 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.

Vaughn, Paul L. December 9, 1925 - March 3, 1945, Sweet Cemetery)

Warble, Mayland

Wible, John H.

Raymond Wirick died on December 23, 1944, at Dyersburg, Tennessee. He and four others were killed when their plane crashed during a training flight. He was from Albion.

Burdette Wisel was killed in action on March 24, 1945 in Germany. Having enlisted, he was only seventeen years old at the time of his death. Prior to war, he called Cromwell home.

Harold Wolf was killed in France in June of 1944 while serving with the glider infantry. He was formerly of Avilla.

Zumbrun, Raymond (1921-1944, Christian Chapel Cemetery)

KOREAN WAR

Arthur Lee Danzer was killed in action on April 24, 1951, while serving in country with the 1st Marine Division. He was a Kendallville resident.

Phillip Eagles was killed in an auto accident on September 2, 1952, while serving at Walker Air Force Base in New Mexico.

Raymond Lindsay was killed in action on September 12, 1950. He was formerly of Wawaka.

Russell Schlabaugh was killed in action on April 11, 1952. While on patrol duty, he was fatally wounded by a sniper's bullet.

Taylor, Richard Smith (November 2, 1931 - August 6, 1952, Orange Cemetery)

VIETNAM WAR

Rex W. Ackerman was killed in action in April of 1969 after stepping on an enemy land mine while on patrol north of Khe Sanh, Vietnam near the DMZ. He had enlisted in the Marine Corp shortly after graduating from East Noble High School in 1968.

Dennis Black was killed in action on November 17, 1965, while serving with Company A, Second Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Air Cav Division at the infamous Ia Drang River Valley. He was a LaOtto resident.

Donald W. Cook was killed in action on Easter Sunday, 1970, when his plane was shot down by enemy fire. He was a warrant officer and helicopter pilot, having served in country since June of 1969, primarily near the Cambodian border.

Darnell, William E.

Bruce Eamick was killed by an explosion on August 8, 1969, at Fire Support Base Washington near Tay Ninh City, Vietnam. He served with Company B, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 25th Division and was a 1966 Albion-Jefferson High School graduate.

Scott Greiling was lost when his plane was downed while on a mission over North Vietnam. He was carried as MIA until the war's end when his status was switched to deceased. He was a 1953 Kendallville High School graduate.

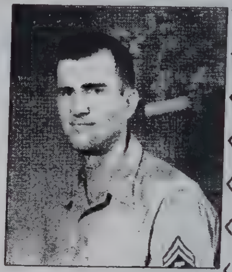
Samuel Godbey was killed in action in July of 1969. He was a former Ligonier resident.

John L. Godfrey was killed in action on November 21, 1966, by an enemy hand grenade. He hailed from Ligonier.

Robert A. Gray was a paratrooper and nine-year army veteran when killed by enemy fire on December 8, 1965. He was a former Avilla resident.

Richard J. Hastreiter was killed in action by enemy mortar fire in December of 1966. He was a Kendallville High School graduate and Rome City resident.

Mirwood "Bud" Dunlap proudly served his country during World War II in the Philippines. We are proud to have such a wonderful caring father.



God Bless you Dad.

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Johnie M. Henninger was killed in action in 1968 while serving in country with the Marine Corp. Prior to war, he called Rome City home.

Roger W. Lawson was killed in action on November 21, 1966 by fragments from enemy artillery rounds. He was a veteran of six years and had been fighting in country for thirteen months at the time of his death. He was a former Cromwell resident.

James M. Treesh was killed in action on May 3, 1970, while serving with an advisory team in Vietnam. He was a graduate of Kendallville High School and former resident of the city

Danny Weber was killed near Vi Thanh, Vietnam on January 29, 1968, when his jeep hit an enemy land mine. He was a 1966 Albion-Jefferson High School graduate.

Terry Weber was killed in action by enemy sniper fire on November 13, 1966, in Pleiku Province, Vietnam. He served with Company A, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry, 25th Division. He graduated from Albion-Jefferson High School with the class of 1964.

James E. Wells was killed in action by an enemy satchel charge on August 29, 1968, while serving with the 321st Artillery, 82nd Airborne near Hue, Vietnam. He graduated from Albion-Jefferson High School in 1966 and was the third member of his class to perish in Vietnam.

Dennis Alan Akey Sr.

AUGUST 27, 1955 - MARCH 19, 1996

We miss you so much and will
never forget you. May God
cradle you in His arms
throughout all time.

Your Family

Martha Ameuman

MARCH 8, 1927 - MAY 25, 2000

The days will come and go,
but the memories we made
always remain.

Ben & Family

David Appleman

MAY 9, 1958 - MAY 4, 2003

You were a light in my
life that will burn forever
in my heart.

Today All Day Always,
Kressie

Margaret Blickenstaff

FEBUARY 5, 1915 - JUNE 20, 1994

The days will come and go,
but the memories we made
always remain.

Love, Your Family

Melissa Mae Bolding

JAN. 3, 1982 - SEPT. 30, 1998

Forever you have left us the
memories of your love, warmth,
humor, laughter, and grace.
The Lord has taken home a
big piece of our sunshine.

We Love You, Dad, Mom & Clay
Family & Friends

Richard Q. Boyd

MAY 16, 1925 - MAY 1991
SARGENT - ARMY

The days will come and go,
but the memories we made
always remain.

Your Sadly Missed

Kenneth Call

JAN. 24, 1926 - SEPT. 17, 2000

The years have passed,
The tears have dried,
We miss you still
And always will

Love, Your Grandaughter,
Mendy Call

Richard Lee Christlieb III

SEPT. 12, 1984 - JUNE 20, 2002

You were a light in our
lives that will burn
forever in our hearts.

Dad, Mom & Kurtis

Richard Lee Christlieb III

SEPT. 12, 1984 - JUNE 20, 2002

As each day passes, We miss you
more & more. Your always in
our hearts & memories.

Our Love Always,
Grandma & Grandpa Linthicum,
Scot & Jenni Camp
& Brad Hathaway

Patricia J. Demske

SEPT. 17, 1942 - JULY 26, 2002

You never know how much
you're appreciated until you
are gone. You were the
light of my life.

With Love, Your Husband

Earl B. Dero

SEPT. 27, 1934 - OCT. 1, 1999
TSGT. - AIR FORCE

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Bev, Scott, Carole, Alison, Jr.,
Deanna & Grandkids

Mary Alexandra
Donay

MAY 28, 2001 - SEPT. 4, 2002

We love you, Doodlebug,
and miss you very much.
You brightened our lives every
day you were with us and
we will never forget you.

Grandpa & Nana

Maynard
E. Emerick

JAN. 27, 1934 - NOV. 27, 1994

The days will come and go
but the memories we
made always remain.

Your Loving Wife,
Wanda

Kylie
Renee Everage

FEB. 28, 2001 - MAY 4, 2003

We'll always remember your big
brown eyes, and your silly laugh.
You will be missed dearly.
We will always love you.

With Love,
The Witte Family & Friends

Denver Farmer

AUG. 30, 19[illegible] - MAY 9, 1991
1ST LIEUT. - ARMY - WWII VETERAN

Mabel Farmer

APRIL 1, 1923 - JULY 4, 1994

Grandparents of Melissa [illegible]
You were our foundation to give us strength
through our lives. In our hearts you are
remembered and loved forever.

From All of Your Children & Family

M. Michael Foor

MAY 6, 1977 - APRIL 17, 1997

May the Lord realize your
greatness inside and out
and may He lift your
spirit to the heavens.

Your Brother Kris

M. Michael Foor

MAY 6, 1977 - APRIL 17, 1997

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Dad & Tonya

Tish Fisher
Bender

MAY 4, 1973 - JUNE 9, 1997

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Your Family

Benjamin Kyle Heffley

OCT. 9, 1987 - SEPT. 17, 2000

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

*Love, Your
Family & Friends*

Harland V. Hippensteel, Jr.

*NOV. 5, 1922 - MAR. 28, 2003
2ND LIEUT. - NAVY*

May God's angels
guide you for all eternity.

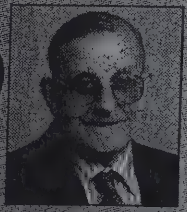
Your Children

Rosemary Hippensteel

FEB. 8, 1925 - JAN. 18, 1995

May God's angels
guide you for all eternity.

Your Children



Henry W. Jensen

*OCTOBER 27, 1918 - AUGUST 3, 2001
ARMY*

You were a light in my
life that will burn
forever in my heart.

Your Loving Wife, Jo

Jean Jordan

JULY 18, 1932 - JULY 9, 2001

Thank you for all the
wonderful times we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.

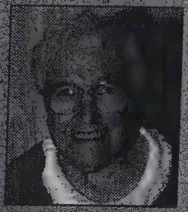
Love, Your Family

Virgil H. Kimes Sr.

MARCH 6, 1911 - SEPT. 10, 2001

Thank you for all the wonderful
times we shared with you. You'll
always have a special place in our
hearts. We miss you so much.

Your Loving Family



Marie Ann Klink

OCT. 17, 1909 - OCT. 7, 2002

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

*Roger & Joan Inlow
& Children*

Amanda Kay Lenker

JULY 14, 1985 - NOV. 12, 2001

No words spoken can express
just how much you are deeply
loved and missed. May God
surround you in his
love and light.

Our Love & Prayers to You

Ewin C. Link

*SEPT. 7, 1941 - SEPT. 9, 2002
E4 - ARMY*

Thank you for all the
wonderful times we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.
Happy 40th Anniversary.

Opal & Ryan Link

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Richard (Dick) Omspacher

JUNE 26, 1922 - MAR. 28, 1996
ARMY (1942 - 1945)

Thank you for all the wonderful times we shared. We will keep you in our hearts always.

*Your Wife & Children, Marilyn,
Dennis, Pat, Deb & Star*

Pat Penland

APRIL 1, 1918 - APRIL 27, 2000

Not a day goes by that we don't think of you and how much we miss you.

*Dad, Mom, Justin,
Your Family & Friends*

Andy L. Ramey

APRIL 8, 1969 - JULY 1, 1980

We love and miss you, but we know you and Papa are together and will always be our guardian angels.

Love, Your family

Helen Jeanette Hayward Reiling

SEPT. 2, 1920 - MAY 14, 2002

May God cradle you for all eternity. Heaven holds our angel wearing purple, with a red hat which doesn't go and doesn't suit me.

Your Loving Family

Steve Reynolds

JAN. 18, 1919 - NOV. 17, 2000

Missing you & loving you more each day. You will always be in our hearts.

*Forever, Becky,
Stefanie & Stephen*

Charles (Max) Rhodes

AUG. 14, 1935 - NOV. 3, 2002
PFC ARMY

We will never forget you. May God cradle you in His arms throughout all time.

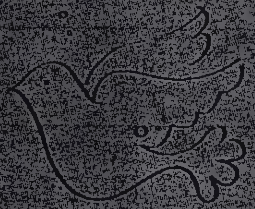
*Your Loving Wife, Rosie
& the Children
& Grandchildren*

Bernard Schortgen

MARCH 22, 1926 - MARCH 29, 1990
PVT. ARMY

Thank you for all the wonderful times we shared. We will keep you in our hearts always.

*Doris Schortgen,
Children & Grandchildren*



Robert H. Shuff

MAR. 5, 1929 - NOV. 4, 2002
ENGINEMAN 3RD CLASS - US NAVY
RETIRED LT. AUBURN POLICE DEPT.
25 YEARS

Thank you for all the wonderful times we shared. We will keep you in our hearts always.

*Your Loving Wife of
Nearly 51 Years, Betty*

Angie Lynn Smith

JUNE 20, 1976 - OCT. 19, 2001

Your were a light in our lives that will burn forever in our hearts.

*With Love, Mom
& Dad Smith*

Alesia (Lisa) Sue Steele

APRIL 3, 1960 - MAY 12, 1998

Love and miss you.

Your Husband,
Randy

Vernon Dale Studebaker

JAN. 7, 1926 - DEC. 26, 2002
CPL. AIR FORCE

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in his
arms throughout all time.

Carol, Children, Grandchildren,
Great-Grandchildren

Dave Sweet

DEC. 15, 1950 - APRIL 23, 1999

Thank you for all the
wonderful times we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.

Love,
Vicki & Mindy

Brooke Nicole Targgart

APRIL 7, 2002 - MARCH 5, 2003

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Love, Mommy & Daddy

Brooke Nicole Targgart

APRIL 7, 2002 - MARCH 5, 2003

You were a light in my
life that will burn forever
in my heart.

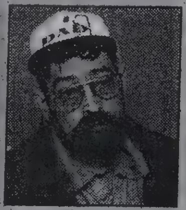
Miss You - Love,
Grandma & Grandpa Targgart

Matthew Terry

APRIL 16, 1985 - DEC. 24, 2001

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Love, Mom & Don

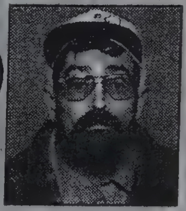


Kenneth Wilkinson

NOVEMBER 6, 1951 - MARCH 12, 2003
NAVY

You were a light in my
life that will burn
forever in my heart.

Your Wife, Ann



Kenneth (Mike) Wilkinson

NOV. 8, 1951 - MAR. 12, 2003
NAVY

Thank you for all the wonderful
times we shared. We will keep
you in our hearts always.

Mom, Jean, Charlie, Sara,
Gina, Virgil, Clayton

Karsten Williams

OCT. 19, 1978 - MARCH 26, 1997

May God's angels
guide you for all eternity.

Forever in Our Hearts,
Your Family

Glen Maxwell

1913 - 1994

You were like a father to me,
& I miss you very much
and will never forget you.

Bernie Gannon

Opal Maxwell

JULY 1911 - AUG. 1999

Many times I have needed
you - a million times I have cried
If love could have saved you,
you never would of died.

Love You,
Bernie Gannon
Bernie's Alterations

Kevin McCormick

JAN. 11, 1962 - NOV. 20, 2002

You were a friend, husband
and father. Memories old
and new will always
include thoughts of you.

Kathy, Matt & Zack

Mary Christine McNeal

NOV. 17, 1949 - APRIL 12, 1992

Our hearts will continue to
feel the emptiness of your
passing until we meet
again in heaven.

Your Loving Family,
Faye, John and Nathan

Dee Lynn Pontzius Meadows

NOV. 20, 1964 - NOV. 7, 2000

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Mom, Dad and Mary

Cleatus (Jerry) Moffett

FEB. 18, 1934 - NOV. 16, 2002
ARMY

Cherished husband, daddy,
grandpa, and friend. You served
our Lord well. Thank you for
leaving us assurance, we will be in
heaven together one day.

Your Loving Wife and Family

Lyle (Curley) Myers

APRIL 17, 1918 - SEPT. 24, 2002

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Always in Our Hearts, Your Wife
Children, Grandchildren
& Great-Grandchildren

Stevie Napier

JAN. 27, 1961 - OCT. 31, 1998

You have brightened so many
lives and touched hearts in
so many ways. We will love
and miss you more
each and every day.

Your Loving Family

Aaron D. Neace

JULY 31, 1981 - JULY [illegible], 1998

You were a light in
my life that will burn
forever in my heart.

From, Mom, Dad, Sister
& All Those Who Loved You

DeWayne G. Reed

SEPT. 11, 1938 - FEB. 20, 1999

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

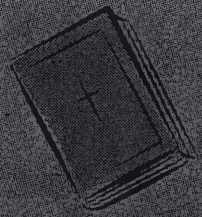
Your Loving Family

Hal Fuller

JANUARY 6, 1924 - JULY 19, 2002
SGT. MARINE CORPS

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in his
arms throughout all time.

Your Family



Denver Gibson

JULY 12, 1934 - JAN. 29, 1988

Martha Gibson

MAR. 19, 1935 - NOV. 21, 2002

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Your Beloved Children

Jerry (Doug) Goble

SEPT. 12, 1942 - JULY 27, 2002

Thank you for all the
wonderful times we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.

All His Family

Tawana Resia Knox-Goings

MAY 22, 1963 - NOV. 13, 2002

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Love Always, Your Family

Kathy Sue Gose

FEB. 21, 1976 - NOV. 14, 2000

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

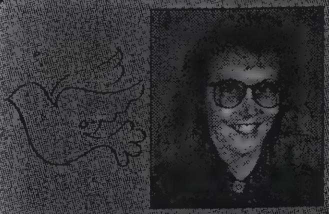
Goldie and Family

Sheryl Marie Damron Gravely

MARCH 21, 1979 - DECEMBER 2, 2002

Thank you for all the
wonderful times we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.

Your Friends at KPC



Laurie Ann Haiflich

SEPT. 18, 1960 - JANUARY 11, 2000

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Your Loving Family & Friends

Mark Handshoe

AUG. 19, 1950 - FEB. 22, 1993

Thank you for all the
wonderful times we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.

*Your Wife, Kids &
Grandchildren*

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Dishmon Combs
MARCH 9, 1946 - APRIL 4, 2003

You were a light in my
life that will burn forever
in my heart.

Your Wife & Children

Elda J. Copley
MARCH 26, 1927 - JULY 7, 2002
PVT - ARMY

You were a light in
my life that will burn
forever in my heart.

Love, Your Family

Lottie M. Cracraft
FEB. 15, 1930 - APRIL 29, 2000

You were a light in my
life that will burn forever
in my heart.

Henry Cracraft Jr.

Benjamin A. Cummings
JULY 12, 1928 - OCT. 5, 2002
ARMY

The days will come and go,
but the memories we
made always remain.

*Your Loving
Family and Friends*

Timothy Carl Cusick
APRIL 4, 1965 - MAY 17, 1996

The days will come and
go, but the memories
we made always remain.

Your Family

Chaz A. Duler
JULY 3, 1985 - OCT. 24, 2001

May you be free from your
troubles. You are missed greatly!
You are in our hearts forever, your
memory will never be lost!

Mom, Patrick, & Shae

Ellen Moore Davis
OCT. 14, 1919 - FEB. 14, 1999

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

*We Love & Miss You,
Your 7 Children
& Grandchildren*

Mandi Lynn DeClue
JUNE 4, 1993 - AUG. 11, 1999

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Nanny

Mandi DeClue
JUNE 4, 1993 - AUG. 11, 1999

When you were born, God
proved angels walked the earth.
With your passing,
God proved love the most
powerful of emotions.
We love you, our angel.

*From Your Mommy,
Kerosha & Karessa*

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Kathy Lutz

DECEMBER 21, 1947 - MAY 17, 1989

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Your Loving Family

Larry L. Martin

MAY 9, 1953 - AUG. 31, 2000

Larry, You are loved
and missed by us all.
We will never forget you.

Love Always,
Roxie & Children

Wilda Gibson

AUG. 1, 1939 - SEPT. 18, 2002

"To My Beautiful
Guardian Angel"
I was blessed Mom to have
you in my life and you will
always be in my heart.

Love Your Daughter,
Tammy Grimm

Charles L. McDonald

DECEMBER 7, 1918 - NOV. 21, 1987
S/SGT. ARMY

You were a light
in my life that will
burn forever in my heart.

Evelyn L. McDonald

Julie Ann Jones McMaken

JULY 27, 1967 - MAY 7, 1991

If tears could build a stairway,
and memories a lane, I'd walk
right up to heaven and bring
you home again.

Ron & Marsha Jones
& Family

Mary Nancy Grady

JULY 30, 1922 - FEBUARY 8, 2003

The days will come and go,
but the memories we
made always remain.

We Love You,
Ed & Family

Frank J. Molargik

JULY 4, 1916 - JUNE 4, 1995

The days will come and go,
but the memories we
made always remain.

Love, Ruth

Tisha J. Morgan

JUNE 1, 1963 - DECEMBER 28, 2001

Tisha, you will always be
our special angel. We'll be
together soon in the
loving arms of Jesus.

Dad, Mom,
Dustin & Ryan

Herman E. Hantz

DECEMBER 11, 1940 - JUNE 6, 1968
1ST LT. ARMY OFFICER - SPECIAL
FORCES - GREEN BERET UNIT

You were a light in
my life that will burn
forever in my heart.

Love Mom & Family

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Carl J. Collins
OCT. 6, 1917 - FEB. 26, 1999

Thank you for all the
wonderful times we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.

We Miss You & Love Always,
Your Family

Lowel E. Swift
JUNE 29, 1963 - APRIL 18, 1987
AIR FORCE

If tears could build a
stairway and memories a lane,
I'd walk right up to heaven
and bring you home again.

Love You, Mother (Bernie
Gannon), Sister (Debbie)
& Brother (Danny)

Michael
L. Walter
JUNE 6, 1962 - MARCH 16, 2002

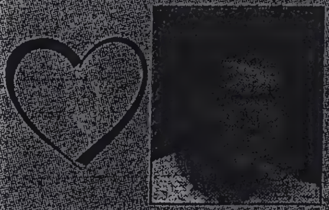
Thank you for all the wonderful
times we shared. You are
forever in all of our hearts.

Penny, Crystal, Frankie,
Kelli & Baby Emma

Timothy Andrew
Culbertson (Tim)
DEC. 7, 1978 - JAN. 19, 2002

Son, Brother, Friend,
God's Child
Forever in our heart

Your Loving Family



Matthew
Willis Terry
APRIL 16, 1985 - DEC. 24, 2001

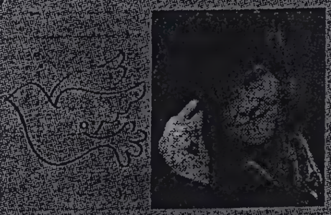
Someday we will be
together again. Until then,
you are alive in our hearts and
our love for you willl never fade.

Forever Our Love,
Dad, Becky, Lacy & Adrianna

Ellen (Queenie)
Welsch
MAY 13, 1920 - AUG. 13, 1997

The days will come and go
but the memories we made
always remain.

With Love,
Your Daughter Bonnie,
Grandchildren
& Great-Grandchildren



Opal M. Damron
JUNE 19, 1936 - JANUARY 31, 1997

Mother we love you,
The memories we shared
You are never forgotten,
Never out of our heart
We hope eternal peace
Possesses your soul.

John & Ann Damron
& Family

Wayne Williams
MAY 8, 1962 - AUG. 23, 2000

I miss everything about you.
You will always be my soul mate.
You are so sad ly missed.
I love you.

Your Wife, Elizabeth

Neal C. Wolfe
JANUARY 12, 1948 - JUNE 15, 2002

Thank you for all the
wonderful times we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.

Your Loving Wife Elaine,
Tracy, Teresa, Troy & Tiffany

Tandy Ramey

MARCH 5, 1924 - JULY 8, 1994

Your memory is our keepsake
with which we'll never part.
But, it would seem like heaven
to have you back again.

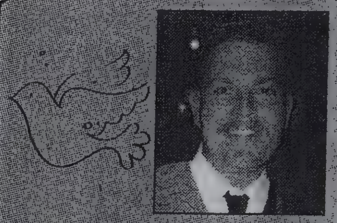
Love, Your Family

**Denzil
Elliot Reiling**

AUG. 1, 1918 - JULY 25, 1989
COE 172 INF - RIFLEMAN 745 - ARMY

May God cradle you for all
eternity. May you be singing with
the Lord's angels. Take care of
Mom, Dad. We love you both.

Your Loving Family

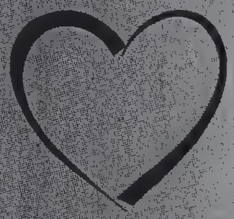


Gregory L Clingan

JAN. 21, 1968 - JAN. 30, 2003

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

*Love, Mom, Dad,
Jeff & Doug*



Davy Rollins

FEBUARY 13, 1975 - JULY 3, 1993

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Dad, Mom, Ben, Sheila

**Dorthy Belle
Merchant Saddison**

APRIL 8, 1922 - DEC. 23, 1987

As you watch over us here on
earth may God be holding you
in his hand, you are always
remembered by your
loving family.

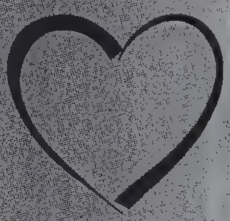
Your Loving Family

Shelly Cross

MAR. 14, 1978 - MAR. 15, 2001

We miss you and love you.
You're always in our hearts.

*Your Loving Family
& Friends*



Max D. Smith

JAN. 10, 1946 - NOV. 11, 2001

You were a light in
my life that will burn
forever in my heart.

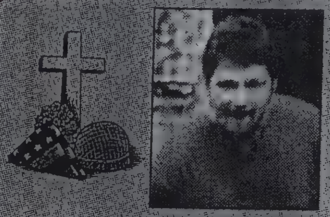
Your Loving Wife

**Dylan Michael
Stafford**

JULY 10, 1996 - JUNE 29, 2002

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Mom, Dad & Family



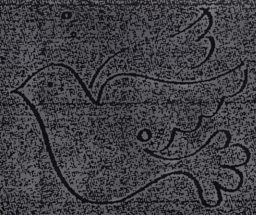
Jerry K. Damron

JANUARY 5, 1963 - MARCH 11, 1989

Thank you my Brother,
for being my friend.
You are with me always,
I hope that you are free,
and that Jesus loves you.

John Damron

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

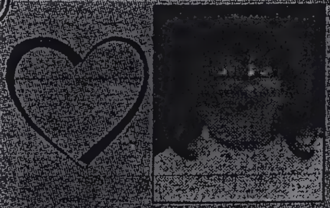


Sally L. Gingrich

OCT. 23, 1958 - OCT. 12, 2002

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Love Always,
Kelly, Aileen, Amy,
Kevin, Sherry & Greg



Sheryl Marie
Damron Gravely

MARCH 25, 1979 - DECEMBER 2, 2002

More than a child,
more than a friend.
A smile so angelic
that was our Sheryl.
Please love her, Father,
as much as we do.

Dad, Ann, Mom & Nick, Ben,
Taundra & Dennisa

Gwendolyn
L. Harvey

MARCH 28, 1927 - MAY 14, 1997

She was not scared of dying,
As it was her time to live,
Truly in the heavens,
Where Gods embrace he gives.

Daughters,
Cindy Carr & Nancy Beechy

Crystal
Gayle Homister

JAN. 14, 1978 - JAN. 6, 2000

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.
We will always love you.

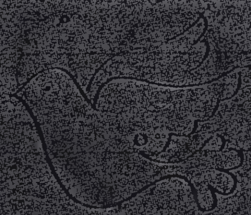
Mom, Sisters & Brothers
and your Son

Michael Kline II

JUNE 11, 1986 - OCTOBER 22, 2002

You were more than just my
neighbor, you were my
best friend. Not a day goes
by that you're not missed.
Someday we'll meet again.

Your Friend, Dustin



Harold (Pete)
Shullinger

APRIL 4, 1927 - APRIL 4, 1998

Your are missed very much
by your friends & family,
but we know you are
with us every day.

Your Loving Family

Michael B.
Kline II

JUNE 11, 1986 - OCT. 22, 2002

You were a light in our
lives, you will live
In our hearts forever.
We love and miss you.

Love, Grandma &
Grandpa Kline

THE NEWS SUN
MAY 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Thomas Durham
SEPT. 9, 1938 - SEPT. 29, 1983
A-3C - AIR FORCE

You have been dearly missed.
I think of you daily.
You will not be forgotten.
"Till we meet again."

Your Son, Mike

Marie Redman
"Grandma Red"
AUGUST 24, 1907 - FEBRUARY 27, 2001

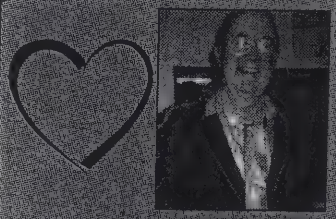
Thank you for all the
wonderful time we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.

Love, Your Family

Ernest R. Arnold
JUNE 10, 1931 - AUG. 7, 1997

The days will come and go,
but the memories we
made always remain.

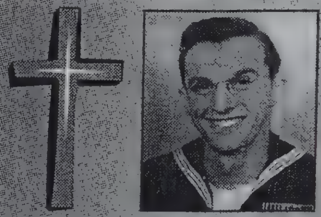
With Love,
From Martha & Family



David F. Feller
MARCH 31, 1933 - OCT. 26, 1997
STAFF SARGENT - AIR FORCE

Dave - you have so many
friends. We remember your
smile and laughter.
Thanks for the memories.

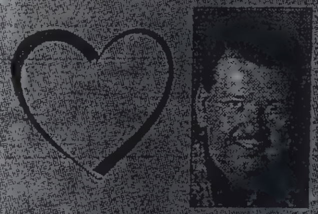
Charlotte Feller
The Feller Family



Ferman D.
Fiandt, Jr.
NOV. 7, 1925 - MAR. 25, 1992
F 1/C - NAVY

We will never forget you.
May God cradle you in
His arms throughout all time.

Your Loving Family



Chuck Branham
JULY 19, 1949 - NOV. 6, 2002

[illegible]
wonderful time we shared.
We will always miss you
and love you forever.

Your Loving Wife,
Children and Grandchildren

(Rick) Richard
E. Baade II
AUG. 8, 1967 - FEB. 6, 1988

Though it's been 15 years
since you left us, there rema
that void without your smile
and special ways.

Your Loving family

Mindy Foster
AUG. 23, 1941 - AUG. 15, 2002

To My Wife and Mother:
Words cannot describe how much
we miss you. You will be in our
hearts forever. We love you.

You Loving Family,
Dick, Debbie, Diane, Rick,
Mike and Chad

Buddy Freed
MAY 6, 1928 - JUNE 26, 1981

Thank you for all the
wonderful time we shared.
We will keep you in
our hearts always.

Your Loving Family

Steven Jerome Brow
JULY 21, 1982 - OCTOBER 8, 2002

Once a friend, always a friend
Once a brother, always a brothe
Once a son, always a son
Once a father, always a father
Once missed, always missed
Never forgotten,
always remembered

Love, Family & Friends

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 1 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Jeana Myers

ANGOLA — Jeana L. Myers, 72, of Angola, died Friday, May 30, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

She owned and operated Jeana's Cakes & Crafts in Angola and was a member of Beta Sigma Phi and York Rite Ladies.

Mrs. Myers

She was born March 28, 1931, in Tellico Plains, Tenn., to Alfred and Birdie (Burnett) Saunders. Her mother survives in Wallen, Tenn.;

On Aug. 19, 1949, she married John Myers in Angola. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons, John III of Huntington and Donald of Angola; a daughter, Deborah Lynn Myers of Lampoc, Calif.; a brother, Steven Saunders of Wallen, Tenn.; and five grandchildren.

A son, Anthony "Tony" Myers, a brother, Jerald Saunders, and her father preceded her in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Weicht Funeral Home, 207 N. West St., Angola, with Pastor Paul Metzger officiating.

Calling will be Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola. Memorials are to Jean's Transplant Fund at First Federal Savings and Loan Bank, Angola.

Letitia Hart

LAGRANGE — Letitia Marie Hart, 74, of LaGrange, died Friday, May 30, 2003, at 6:40 p.m. at Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange.

She lived in LaGrange County her entire life and worked as a telephone operator for United Telephone Systems.

She was born Dec. 6, 1928, in LaGrange County, to Charles H. and Opal (Hutchins) Collins.

On July 1, 1948, in Kendallville, she married Teddy C. Hart. He survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Karen and Ronnie Fraley of Fremont and Sally and Ken Neidemire of Angola; two sons, Bruce of Stroh and David of Terre Haute; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, 309 W. Michigan St., LaGrange, with the Rev. Carldean Merrifield officiating.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Lake Bethel Cemetery, LaGrange. Memorials are to the American Heart Association.

Violet Richards

LAGRANGE — Violet Willowdean Richards, 94, died Friday, May 30, 2003, at 1 a.m at Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange after a brief illness.

She was a member of Lakeview Methodist Church for many years and had worked at Chase Bag Factory for a number of years.

She was born March 7, 1909, in Noble County to Thomas Joshua Archer and Elva Elizabeth (Gray) Archer.

On July 3, 1930, in Goshen, she married George E. Richards. He preceded her in death on Feb. 19, 1994.

Surviving are a son, Calvin V. Richards of Mitchell; a brother, Roy Archer of Milford; seven grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

A daughter, Ida Mae Love, died June 21, 2001, and two sisters, Ethel Mae Dunithan and Bernice Eash, and two brothers, Cecil and Stacy Archer, are also deceased.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Hartman Funeral Home in Goshen, with Dr. Steven A. Hite of Grace Bible Baptist Church in Syracuse officiating. Calling will be one hour before services.

Burial will be in Violett Cemetery in Goshen.

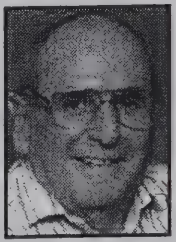
Memorials are to Grace Bible Baptist Church in Syracuse.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 1 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Decorated veteran cherished family

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ANGOLA — James Butler received a Purple Heart for his service to his country during World War II, but he was something of a reluctant hero.


Mr. Butler

"He didn't like to talk about his time in the service," said Mr. Butler's daughter, Kathy Vrana.

"He was with his unit, and when they were in Iwo Jima, they had gotten ahead of the enemy lines and were all in a foxhole. The rest of his unit was killed — he was the only one that survived."

James R. Butler, 78, died Friday, May 23, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital. He had suffered from emphysema and chronic lung disease for many years.

"It was a lingering illness. He dealt with it for a long time; he was a fighter," said Mr. Butler's wife of 54 years, Joan.

Kathy said she and her family only recently got some deeper insight into her father's World War II experience, when her 18-year-old son, Elliott, did a paper on his grandfather as a school assignment.

"He got a look at my dad the rest of us never really got," she said.

Joan said her husband was never interested in going to any of his military reunions.

"He would tell me there was no reason to go, because everyone he had been close to was gone," she said.

Mr. Butler also shied away from movies about World War II.

"He wouldn't go see 'Saving Private Ryan,' she remembered. "The kids came home and told him what it was like, and he just didn't want any part of it."

Kathy remembers her father as "a really great man."

The Butler children grew up in Orland, and spent their summers on Lake Pleasant. Their parents moved into town in Angola seven years ago.

"He was really honest," she said. "He told it like he was. You always knew how he felt about you and about things."

That bluntness is something Kathy said both she and her sister, Lisa Tracey, inherited.

"She's more like that than I am," she said with a chuckle.

Although the Butlers traveled a lot on vacations, Kathy said their time together "just sitting around talking and laughing" was what her father enjoyed the most and is what had given her some of her fondest memories of her father.

"We probably enjoyed our family gatherings more than anything else," she said.

Kathy said her parents spent the last 13 or 14 years wintering in Florida, and that she and her family always enjoyed visiting them there.

"We liked to go down there, just hang out together and play cards," she said.

Joan, who would have celebrated her 55th wedding anniversary with her husband on Oct. 18, agreed.

"He was a good, caring and wonderful man who loved his children and adored his grandchildren," she said.

Mr. Butler is also survived by his mother, Irene; two sons, Jeffery Butler and Douglas Butler; a brother, Richard Butler of Springfield, Ohio; a sister, Mary Strawser of Rome City; and nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

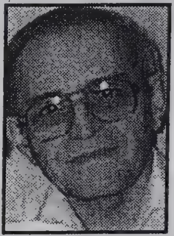
THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 1 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Local Mennonite pastor never stopped learning, ministering

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

ROME CITY — Lewis Bender Miller was born to an Amish couple in rural Goshen in July 1929, and his education ended after the eighth grade, but, according to his family, he never stopped learning.

Even as a child, he knew God wanted him to be a minister. When it was time to choose his religious affiliation, he left the Old Order Amish Church, but didn't go far. He eventually became a minister in the Mennonite Church.



Mr. Miller

As Lewis was tooling around Goshen one day, he noticed a young woman outside the hospital where she lived and worked as a nursing assistant. Before long, Lois noticed the brash young man, driving his car back and forth. "I could tell I was the center of attention," she said. Finally, the two got acquainted and Lois agreed to accompany him to a church function. The couple was married in 1950 in Elkhart, and they spent the next 52 years attending church functions together.

Lewis was eventually able to attend Goshen College, and later, the University of Chicago. He was ordained in 1953 — the year his daughter Jolene was born. In 1970, he and son Phil had graduations the same year — Lewis from the university, and Phil from East Noble High School.

As a bi-vocational Mennonite minister, Lewis worked at various jobs, including McCray Refrigeration in Kendallville. One year, McCray paid all its employees in silver dollars. That spurred one of Lewis' hobbies, coin collecting, an interest he passed along to his son. He also worked as a probation officer and counselor with the Northeastern Center and, most recently, at ARC Opportunities.

His work took him overseas a few times, including to Nairobi, Kenya. "Of 59 people in the group, they were all psychiatrists but Lewis and me," said Lois. On one field trip, Lewis, with pant legs rolled up, tried to help push the bus out of a muddy river. Several native children gathered to watch the spectacle, and laughed with glee at the white man's pasty legs. The tour leader praised Lewis and his wife for their helpfulness. "She said we were the number one couple," said Lois, "and gave us the VIP suite at the hotel that night. We got sweet rolls and hot tea — and our very own bathroom."

"There wasn't much he couldn't do," said Phil, "but if he didn't know how to do something, he'd read about it and figure it out." Shortly before his death May 26 at age 73, Lewis was learning another new skill — stone masonry.

His wife and son agreed, Lewis reached for, and achieved his dreams, and encouraged his children and grandchildren to do the same. As to why God took him so suddenly, Phil is comforted by these words, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 1 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Herbert Hoffmeyer

AUBURN — Herbert K. Hoffmeyer, 79, died Saturday, May 31, 2003, at Betz Nursing Home in Auburn.

Mr. Hoffmeyer was a welder. He worked for McCray Refrigeration Co. in Kendallville for 20 years and Crane Edmund Co. in Butler for six years, retiring in 1980. He was a World War II Navy veteran.

He was born Feb. 27, 1924, in DeKalb County to Theodore and Georgia (Bonney) Hoffmeyer.

On March 15, 1947 in Waterloo, he married Barbara Diederich. She survives.

Also surviving are two brothers-in-law, Robert Raub of Huntertown and Carl Friend of Corunna; and several nieces and nephews, including a special friend and nephew, Steve Friend of Fort Wayne.

A sister, Doris Friend, preceded him in death.

Private family services will be Tuesday at Fairfield Cemetery in Corunna, with the Rev. William Smith officiating.

Calling is Monday from 4-8 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo.

Memorials are to the DeKalb County Humane Society.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Margaret Burtch

AUBURN — Margaret D. Burtch, 86, died Saturday, May 31, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Burtch was a homemaker and a member of Mount Zion Church at Golden Lake.

She was born Oct. 7, 1916, in Auburn to Boyd and Bessie Ringler.

She married Howard E. Burtch in Auburn in 1935. He died in 1982.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Ronald and Connie Burtch of Wolcottville; two daughters and sons-in-law, Suzanne and Donald Burdick of Butler and Linda and John Schienda of Bellefontaine, Ohio; one sister, Betty Tuttle of Garrett; eight grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Walter and Ralph Ringler, and her parents.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. The Rev. Susan Beckett will officiate. Burial will be in Mount Zion Cemetery at Golden Lake.

Calling is Tuesday from 4-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Mount Zion Church.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Ruth Shirk

AVILLA — Ruth M. Shirk, 92, died Sunday, June 1, 2003, in Auburn at the home of her son.

Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla is in charge of arrangements.

Constance Miller

KENDALLVILLE — Constance Miller died Sunday, June 1, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital.

Among survivors is her husband, Warren Miller.

Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home.

Robert Beckberger

HELMER — Robert L. Beckberger, 72, died Saturday, May 24, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital, Phoenix, Ariz., after an extended illness.

He was born in Helmer Feb. 6, 1931

He is survived by two daughters, Cheryl Dickerson of Phoenix, Ariz., and Barbara Nudd of La Crosse Wis.; and three sons, Lloyd Beckberger of Yuma, Ariz., Mark Beckberger of Sun City, Ariz., and Mike Beckberger of Scottsdale, Ariz.; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchild; one sister, Connie Grossman of Phoenix; two nieces; one nephew; and three grandnephews.

A private memorial service will be held Saturday.

Albert Schroeder

FORT WAYNE — Albert F. Schroeder, 93, died Saturday, May 31, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He was employed by the U.S. Postal Service for 36 years, retiring in 1977 as a supervisor. He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church, National Association of Letter Carriers, National Association of Supervisors and Saint Francis Alumni Association.

He was born in Fort Wayne July 5, 1909, to Frederick W. and Margaret K. (Hirschmann) Schroeder.

Surviving are his wife, Dorthea M. Theel Schroeder of Fort Wayne; two sons, Thomas Schroeder of Avilla and David Schroeder of Bartlett, Ill.; a daughter, Elaine Elsner of Hudson; and four grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, with Pastor Joel Brondos officiating. Burial will be at Old Concordia Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 5 to 8 p.m. at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, 6131 St. Joe Road, and one hour before services at the church.

Preferred memorials are to Zion Lutheran Church.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
3

Robert Schlabach

LIGONIER — Robert L. Schlabach, 73, died at 1:32 a.m. Monday, June 2, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a lifelong Noble County resident. He was a heavy equipment operator for Forker Excavating and had worked for the Ligonier Parks Department. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean conflict. He enjoyed fishing and being with his grandchildren.

He was born in Washington Township, Noble County, Aug. 23, 1929, to Grover and Bernice (Stump) Schlabach.

He married Pearl Alfrey, who died in 1959. He then married Sharon Coney. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Patrick Gerst of Elkhart; a stepson, Joseph Fulford of Wawaka; two daughters, Susie Wyatt of Cromwell and Christine Gerst of Ligonier; two stepdaughters, Jennie Parsley of Topeka and Tracey Bordner and her husband, Charles, of Kendallville; a brother, Adrian Schlabach of Culver; a sister and brother-in-law, Doris Ann and Kenneth Ott of Albion; 15 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Besides his first wife, he was preceded in death by a brother, Albert.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Bill Parks of Trinity Assembly of God officiating. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Calling will be Wednesday from 3 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Lucas Bordner Fund.

Constance Miller

KENDALLVILLE — Constance K. Miller, 93, died Sunday, June 1, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital.

She was a 1929 graduate of Kendallville High School. She was a member of Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall church in Kendallville.

She was born in Attica, Ind., March 19, 1910, to Clement and Susan (Clark) Williams.

She married Warren J. Miller Dec. 1, 1934, in Kendallville. They were married 68 years. He survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Julie and Brent Grawcock of Albion; a son and daughter-in-law, Dennis and Regina Miller of Scottsdale, Ariz.; two grandsons, Donovan Miller of Nashville, Tenn., and Jonathon Miller of Scottsdale; and one granddaughter and her husband, Kim and John Washam of Nashville.

She was preceded in death by six brothers and one sister.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Shepherd of the Hill nursing home.

Condolences may be e-mailed at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Jim Betzner

KENDALLVILLE — Jim Betzner, 50, died Sunday, June 2, 2003.

Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home.

Services Held

SHIPSHEWANA — Services for **Lewis Bender Miller** were held Friday at 11:30 a.m. at Shore Mennonite Church. Pastors Tim Lichti, Mervin Miller and Galen Johns officiated. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Pallbearers were Terry Northup, Roger Franke, Lewis Hartzler, Mervin Miller, Richard Martin and Kirk Stoltzfus.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILE — Services for **Brad Shepherd** were held Monday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Sam Weimer officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Loyd Shepherd Jr., Gene Shepherd, Mike Shepherd, Tyler Shepherd, Shawn Prince, Chad Prince and Lester Martin.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 3 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Joseph Schermerhorn

KENDALLVILLE — Joseph Miles Schermerhorn, 85, died at 2:50 p.m. Monday, June 2, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital. He had been ill for three years.

He was a lifelong Noble County farmer near Brimfield before moving to Kendallville, where he lived for 30 years. He was a member of Brimfield United Methodist Church for over 80 years and the oldest member of "The Walk to Emmaus" at Oakwood Park in the late 1990s. He enjoyed fishing.

Mr. Schermerhorn

He was chairman of Noble County Farm Bureau for two terms, and a member of the Indiana State Fair Board, where he was head of the sheep department for eight years. He was on the East Noble school board for four years, and was a 20-year member of the board of Campbell & Fetter Bank, serving as secretary for four years. He had also been an appraiser for many years.

He attended Purdue University and the University of Wisconsin. He graduated from Rome City High School in 1936.

He was born in Noble County May 8, 1918, to Ernest G. and Mae (Gallup) Schermerhorn.

He married Mildred "Millie" Harper Dec. 21, 1940, in Cromwell. She survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-inlaw, Steve and Debra Schermerhorn of Wawaka; two daughters and sons-in-law, Jan and Arden Hundey of DeWitt, Mich., and Kay and John Klingler of Cheboygan, Mich.; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and a sister, Jeannette Shull of Wawaka.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Paul Schermerhorn.

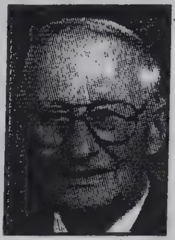
Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Brimfield United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Mike Neff officiating. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville and Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Brimfield United Methodist Church or Noble House.

Prominent farmer, businessman Joseph Schermerhorn dies

KENDALLVILLE — Prominent farmer and businessman Joseph Schermerhorn, 85, died Monday at Parkview Noble Hospital, after a three-year illness.



Mr. Schermerhorn

The lifelong Noble County resident was a farmer near Brimfield. During his long career, he served on several boards, including as chairman of the Noble County Farm Bureau for two terms. For eight years, he headed up the sheep department on the board of the Indiana State Fair. He also served on the East Noble school board and Campbell & Fetter Bank board.

His obituary appears on Page A8 today.

THE NEWS SUN

JUNE 3 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Arthur Roy

LAGRANGE — Arthur V. Roy, 85, died at 1:40 p.m. Monday, June 2, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

He was a salesman for a livestock auction. He moved from Tustin, Mich., to LaGrange in 1999. He was a member of Free & Accepted Masons Lodge 331, Clam Lake Lodge, Cadillac, Mich.

He was born in LaGrange County Sept. 3, 1917, to Verne and Edna (Parks) Roy.

He married Margaret C. Brodbeck Aug. 29, 1937, in Topeka. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Patricia L. Roy of Carmel; a son, James W. Roy of Inkster, Mich.; and a sister, Clara Hirschy of LaGrange.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Eleanor Ulmer.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dexter Garman officiating. Burial will be at Eden Cemetery, Topeka.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. with a Masonic service at 6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to LaGrange County Council on Aging.

Glendin Mahnensmith

LAGRANGE — Glendin Miller Mahnensmith, 88, died Sunday, June 1, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor.

He was a sales representative in the heating industry for G.W. Berkheimer of Indianapolis. He was a member of First United Methodist Church and Masonic Lodge in Ossian, Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Wayne and Mizpah Shrine of Fort Wayne. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during World War II. He moved from Ossian to Rome City in 2000.

He was born in Ossian June 11, 1914, to Harold R. and Hazel D. (Miller) Mahnensmith.

He married Elizabeth R. Stout May 3, 1936, in Bluffton. She died May 5, 2001.

Surviving are two sons, Michael S. Mahnensmith of Maui, Hawaii, and Kent W. Mahnensmith of Rome City; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

One grandchild preceded him in death.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Ossian, with the Rev. Tim Dilley officiating. Burial will be at Oaklawn Cemetery, Ossian.

There will be no calling.

Memorials are to the children's Sunday school of First United Methodist Church in Ossian.

Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange is in charge of arrangements.

Mary Ann Rodgers

ORLAND — Mary Ann Rodgers, 78, died Sunday, June 1, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

She retired as a social case worker for Steuben County Welfare Department. She had also been a secretary in Chicago. She was a member of St. Anthony of Padua in Angola, Orland American Legion Post 423 and past president of the auxiliary. She was also involved in Santa's Helpers, Orland Lions Club, and a Cub Scout den mother in Orland. She also enjoyed playing bingo and euchre.

She was born in Fort Wayne July 1, 1924, to Grover William and Mary A. (Kettern) Lutz.

She married Harry (Gene) Rodgers Feb. 24, 1945, in Fort Wayne. He died Sept. 12, 2000.

Surviving are a daughter, Jean Sain of Angola; a son, John Rodgers of Orland; a sister, Doris Wisniewski of Fort Wayne; a brother, Philip Lutz of Helmer; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by four brothers.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date.

There is no calling.

Memorials are to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 2680, North Canton, OH 44720.

Beams Funeral Home of Fremont is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

JUNE 3 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Ruth Shirk

AVILLA — Ruth M. Shirk, 92, died at 1:26 p.m. Sunday, June 1, 2003, at her son's home in Auburn.

She lived in Avilla since 1953. She and her husband opened Shirk's Fruit Market in 1953 and built Avilla Drag Strip and ran it until their retirement. She was a member of Cedar Creek Church of the Brethren. She enjoyed playing cards.

She was born in Swan Township, Noble County, Sept. 18, 1910, to George and Lou (Berkes) Keck.

She married Wayne Shirk May 25, 1928. He died Oct. 26, 1977.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Richard Buchmeier of Kendallville; a son and daughter-in-law, James and Sue Shirk of Auburn; seven grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; five stepgreat-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and one stepgreat-great-grandchild.

Preceding her in death were four brothers, Clarence, Ralph, Walter and Kenny Keck; four sisters, Helen Keck, Bernice Gienger, her twin Esther Gienger and Bessie Keck; one grandchild; one stepgrandchild; and one stepgreat-grandchild.

Services will be Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, Avilla, with the Rev. Brad Hardesty officiating. Burial will be at Embrey Cemetery near Garrett.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. and one hour before services.

Ruby Kiser

WARSAW — Ruby N. Lewallen Kiser, 86, died at 4 p.m. Monday, June 2, 2003, at her home.

She was a lifelong area resident. She retired from Monsanto in Ligonier in 1980, and co-operated the Lewallen Saw Mill in North Webster for 30 years. She was a member of the North Webster Church of the Brethren and the Northeast Indiana Steam & Gas Engine Club.

She was born in North Webster March 14, 1917, to Mathew Isaac and Elsie Mabel (Hamman) Firestone.

She married Charles M. Lewallen Aug. 29, 1938. He died May 14, 1988. She married Ralph L. Kiser Aug. 8, 1989. He died June 28, 1998.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Karen and Loren Keister of Albion and Evan and Jack Hamilton of Milford; three sons and one daughter-in-law, Jerry Lewallen of Goshen, Larry and Goldie Lewallen of South Whitley and Dennis Lewallen of Oswego; 13 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and one stepson and his wife, Terry and Janet Kiser of North Webster.

She was preceded in death by a sister and two grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel, Syracuse.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the North Webster Church of the Brethren or the Kosciusko County Cancer Care Fund.

James Betzner

KENDALLVILLE — James E. Betzner, 50, died Monday, June 2, 2003.

He was employed by Dow Corning and was a member of Beacon Baptist Church, both in Kendallville.

He was born in Brinkley, Ark., April 6, 1953, to James E. and Nelda J. (Johnson) Betzner.

Surviving are his parents, James and Nelda Betzner of West Alexandria, Ohio; his wife, Terri Lynn Betzner of Howe; a daughter and son-in-law, Sarah and Paul Crow of Shelby, N.C.; two sons, Luke Betzner of Hartington, Neb., and Micah Betzner of Howe; two sisters, Phylissa Early of Gary and Melinda Bauer of Eaton, Ohio; two brothers, Glen and Tim Betzner, both of West Alexandria; and a grandson, Josiah Crow.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at Beacon Baptist Church, with the Rev. Ron Stratman officiating. Burial will be at South Milford Cemetery.

Calling will be for one hour before services at the church.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Dr. Dale Butz

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Dr. Dale E. Butz, 81, died Friday, May 30, 2003, at home.

He was a veteran of World War II. He served as an associate professor of agricultural economics at Michigan State university and was a visiting research professor at Harvard University from 1958 to 1959. He joined the staff of FS Services, now GROWMARK, in 1959, as director of research. He was executive director of commodities for the Illinois Farm Bureau from 1966 to February 1985. He was responsible for all commodity and marketing programs for the state's largest farm organization, plus relationships with other commodity groups.

He married Joyce Ringbloom Dec. 2, 1950, in Minneapolis, Minn. She preceded him in death.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Linda and Steve Phillips of San Antonio, Texas, Barbara and Steve Marks of Kankakee, Ill., and a son and daughter-in-law, Stephen and Jean Butz of Rochelle, Ill.; six grandchildren and spouses, Katie (Marks) Keyes and Tim Marks, Allison and Julie Phillips, Charlie and Laura Butz; a brother, Dr. Earl L. Butz of West Lafayette, and a special daughter, Carla Van der Spuy, a South African exchange student.

Memorial services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, with Pastor Knight Wells officiating. There will be private inurnment of ashes in the church columbarium.

Calling will be today from 5 to 8 p.m. at Kibler-Smith Funeral Home in Bloomington, Ill.

Memorials are to the church, the IAA Foundation, 1701 Towanda Ave., Bloomington, IL 61701 or to the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 4 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Hazel Perkins

LAGRANGE — Hazel J. Perkins, 81, died Tuesday, June 3, 2003, at Life Care Center.

She was a lifelong LaGrange resident. She retired as assistant chief operator for United Telephone Co. (Sprint). She was a member of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in LaGrange.

Mrs. Perkins

She was born in LaGrange Jan. 27, 1922, to Artie C. and C. Effie (Giggy) Carrier.

She married Claudie E. Perkins Sept. 27, 1941, in LaGrange. He died Sept. 11, 1953.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Douglas A. and Karna A. Perkins of Howe; one granddaughter and her husband, Tina and Charles Sawyer of Howe; and five great-grandsons, Steeley, Vincent, Dillon, Cole and Holden Sawyer, all of Howe.

Preceding her in death were two sisters, Lucille Carrier and Berneice E. Sisson.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home, with the Rev. Stephen Flynn officiating. Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, LaGrange.

Eric Mullett

MILLERSBURG — Eric Lynn Mullett, 7 days, died Tuesday, June 3, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was born in LaGrange May 27, 2003, to Melvin Jr. and Dorene (Miller) Mullett.

Surviving are his parents; three brothers, Kenneth Lee, Jesse Eugene and Alvin Ray Mullett, all at home; three sisters, Mary Alice, Nola Jean and Geneva Rose, all at home; paternal grandparents, Melvin and Mary Ellen Mullett of Shipshewana; maternal grandparents, Alvin N. and Alice Miller of Millersburg; and maternal great-grandfather, Levi D. Bontrager of Millersburg.

Services will be Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the Leroy N. Miller residence, 11500 W. C.R. 400S, Millersburg, with Bishop Gerald Miller and home ministers officiating. Burial will be at the Honeyville Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Kenny Miller and Dean Yoder.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the family residence at 11490 W. C.R. 400S, Millersburg.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home of Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

Paul Buckles

WATERLOO — Paul D. Buckles, 59, died Tuesday, June 3, 2003, at his home.

He was a forklift driver for Food Marketing Corp. in Fort Wayne, where he had worked for 38 years.

Mr. Buckles was born Nov. 15, 1943, in Columbia City. His father, Russell Earl Buckles, preceded him in death. His mother, Lavina Owens Maulsby, survives in Avilla.

He married Nancy Teders on April 3, 1965 in Avilla. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Anthony Buckles of Waterloo and Michael Buckles of Metz; two daughters, Jodi Hughes of Auburn and Kimberly Ely of Waterloo; four brothers, Donald, George and Richard of Avilla and Jim of Kendallville; and 13 grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at the Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. The Rev. Ed Hughes will officiate. Burial will be in Waterloo Cemetery.

Calling is Thursday from 1-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health and Hospice of Kendallville.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 4 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Robert Blevins

WATERLOO — Robert Ovid Blevins, 46, died Monday, June 2, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Blevins worked at International Wire in Kendallville the last two years.

He was born Dec. 28, 1956, in Garrett to Robert O. and W. Roena (Shreve) Blevins. They preceded him in death.

Surviving are two daughters, Amanda Blevins of St. Joe and Amber Blevins of Butler; a stepson, Jade Hewitt, serving with the U.S. Air Force in Japan; a sister, Roberta A. Barton, Spencerville; five grandchildren, Caleb Blevins, Anson Hill, Oakley Abell and Jaden and Tanner Hewitt; a nephew, Lee Barton; a niece, Angela Patton; one great-nephew, Cidney Patton; and two great-nieces, Hallie Barton and Harley Patton.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Woodlawn Cemetery of Auburn.

There will be no calling.

Memorials are to the family.

Arrangements are by the Feller Funeral Home, where condolences may be sent to sympathy@feller-funeralhome.net.

Richard Chrysler

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — Richard Lee Chrysler, 74, a former Angola and area resident, died Saturday May 31, 2003, in Deaconess Hospital, Oklahoma City.

Mr. Chrysler was born May 23, 1929, in Angola, the son of Claude W. and Zelda (Teegardin) Chrysler.

He was chief radio operator for the Indiana State Police and was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, having served in the Korean conflict.

He is survived by a son and daughter in-law, Michael and Krystal Chrysler, Peru; two daughters and sons in-law, Pattie and Mark Sommerfeld, Bowling Green, Ohio, and Sandra and Fred Mindach, Marion; a brother, Jack, Angola; and seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

He was proceded in death by his parents and a brother, Mark.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with the Rev. Dewey Miller officiating. Calling will be from 6-8 p.m. today. Burial will be in Jamestown Cemetery, Fremont.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

ALBION NEW ERA
2003
JUNE 4

(The following obituary is being reprinted at the request of the family to include additional information.)

Thomas Lindsey

DUNEDIN, FL – Thomas (Tom) Wade Lindsey, 62, of Dunedin, Florida, died suddenly Friday, May 23, 2003.

He was born in Kendallville on January 19, 1941 to Russell O (former Sheriff of Noble County) and Martha E. (Gandy) Lindsey.

He was a 1959 graduate of Kendallville High School. He attended Purdue University and graduated in 1964 from Oregon State University in Corvallis and completed his masters there in 1968. He was an Army veteran of the Vietnam War and was current Quartermaster of the Dunedin VFW Post 2550. He was a member of Kappa Delta Rho. He was also the resident counselor for 28 years at Michigan Tech University and moved to Dunedin in 1996 from Houghton, MI.

Surviving are his mother, Martha E. Lindsey of Dunedin; and sisters, Victoria (Vicki) Lindsey from Dunedin and Judith (Jil) Leatherman of Albion; one niece, Lindsey M. Leatherman of Albion; two nephews, Scott R. and Dustin W. Leatherman from Albion; and one great-nephew, Colby Reid Leatherman.

A memorial service was held May 29, 2003, at the VFW Post #2550 in Dunedin, FL. Contributions may be made in Tom's name to the Curlew United Methodist Church, 2213 Cathedral Dr. in Palm Harbor, Florida 34683.

Albert Schroeder

FORT WAYNE – Albert F. Schroeder, 93, died Saturday, May 31, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He was employed by the U.S. Postal Service for 36 years, retiring in 1977 as a supervisor. He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church, National Association of Letter Carriers, National Association of Supervisors and Saint Francis Alumni Association.

He was born in Fort Wayne July 5, 1909, to Frederick W. and Margaret K. (Hirschmann) Schroeder.

Surviving are his wife, Dorthea M. (Theel) Schroeder of Fort Wayne; two sons, Thomas Schroeder of Avilla and David Schroeder of Bartlett, IL; a daughter, Elaine Elsner of Hudson; and four grandchildren.

Services were held Wednesday, June 4, 2003, at Zion Lutheran Church, with Pastor Joel Brondos officiating. Burial was in Old Concordia Cemetery.

For those who wish, preferred memorials are to Zion Lutheran Church.

Robert Schlabach

LIGONIER – Robert L. Schlabach, 73, died of natural causes Monday, June 2, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a lifetime resident of Noble County, born August 23, 1929, in Washington Township, to Grover and Bernice (Stump) Schlabach.

He was married to Pearl (Alfrey) Schlabach, who died in 1959. He was later married to Sharon (Coney) Schlabach, who survives.

Mr. Schlabach was a heavy equipment operator for Forker Excavating and most recently for Ligonier Parks Department. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving during the Korean Conflict. He enjoyed fishing and being with his grandchildren.

In addition to his wife Sharon, other survivors include a son, Patrick Gerst of Elkhart; two daughters, Susie Wyatt of Cromwell and Christine Gerst from Ligonier; a step-son, Joseph Fulford from Wawaka; two step-daughters, Jennie Parsley of Topeka and Tracey (Charles) Bordner from Kendallville; brother, Adrian Schlabach of Culver; sister, Doris Ann (Kenneth) Ott from Albion; 15 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Pearl, parents, and a brother, Albert.

Services will be held Thursday, June 5, 2003, at 11:00 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier with Rev. Bill Parks of Trinity Assembly of God Church officiating. Burial will take place in Sparta Cemetery in Kimmell.

Memorials are to the Lucas Bordner Fund.

Ruth Shirk

AVILLA – Ruth M Shirk, 92, died Sunday, June 1, 2003, at her son's home in Auburn.

Born September 18, 1910, in Swan Township, Noble County, she worked at Shirk's Fruit Market and built and ran Avilla Drag Strip, along with her husband, until her retirement.

She was a member of Cedar Creek Church of the Brethren and enjoyed playing cards. She was married to Wayne Shirk in 1928.

Surviving are daughter, Donna (Richard) Buchmeier of Kendallville; son, James (Sue) Shirk of Auburn; seven grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; five step-great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and one step-great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne, who died October 26, 1977; parents, George and Lou (Berkes) Keck; four brothers; four sisters; one grandchild; one step-grandchild; and one step-great-grandchild.

Services were held Wednesday, June 4, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with the Rev. Brad Hardesty officiating. Burial was at Embrey Cemetery in Garrett.

For those who wish, memorials are to Ladies Aid, Cedar Creek Church of the Brethren.

ALBION NEW ERA
JUNE 4 2003

Dr. Dale Butz

BLOOMINGTON, IL – Dr. Dale E. Butz, 81, of 5 Sun Pointe Ct., Bloomington, passed away Friday, May 30, 2003, at his residence. He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Joyce Ringbloom, whom he married on December 2, 1950, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Survivors include a daughter, Linda (Steve) Phillips of San Antonio, TX; a daughter, Barbara (Steve) Marks of Kankakee, IL; and a son, Stephen (Jean) Butz of Rochelle, IL; six grandchildren, Katie (Marks) Keyes and Tim Marks, Allison and Julie Phillips, Charlie and Laura Butz; a brother, Dr. Earl L. Butz of West Lafayette, IN; and a special daughter, Carla Van der Spuy, a South African exchange student.

Dr. Butz was a veteran of World War II. He served as an associate professor of agricultural economics at Michigan State University and as a visiting research professor at Harvard University in 1958-59. He joined the staff of FS Services (now GROWMARK) in 1959 as director of research. In 1966, Dr. Butz became executive director of commodities for the Illinois Farm Bureau, a position he held until retirement in Februrary, 1985. He was responsible for all commodity and marketing programs of the state's largest farm organization, plus relationships with other commodity groups.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, June 5, 2003, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, Pastor Knight Wells officiating. There will be a private inurnment of ashes in St. John's Lutheran columbarium.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the following organizations: St. John's Lutheran Church, 1617 E. Emerson St., Bloomington, IL 61701; The IAA Foundation, 1701 Towanda Ave., Bloomington, IL 61701 or to the charity of the donor's choice.

Joseph Schermerhorn

KENDALLVILLE — Joseph Miles Schermerhorn, 85, died at 2:50 p.m. Monday, June 2, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital. He had been ill for three years.

Mr. Schermerhorn was a lifelong Noble County farmer near Brimfield before moving to Kendallville, where he lived for 30 years. He was a member of Brimfield United Methodist church for over 80 years and the oldest member of "the Walk to Emmaus" at Oakwood Park in the late 1990s. He enjoyed fishing.

He was chairman of Noble County Farm Bureau for two terms, and a member of the Indiana State Fair Board, where he was head of the sheep department for eight years. He was on the East Noble school board for four years, and was a 20-year member of the board of Campbell & Fetter Bank, serving as secretary for four years. He has also been an appraiser for many years.

He attended Purdue University and the University of Wisconsin. He graduated from Rome City High School in 1936.

He was born in Noble County May 9, 1918, to Ernest G. and Mae (Gallup) Schermerhorn.

He married Mildred "Millie" Harper December 21, 1940 in Cromwell. She survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Steve and Debra Schermerhorn of Wawaka; two daughters and sons-in-law, Jan and Arden Hundey of DeWitt, Mich., and Kay and John Klingler of Cheboygan, Mich.; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and a sister, Jeannette Shull of Wawaka.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Paul Schermerhorn.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Brimfield United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Mike Neff officiating. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville and Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Brimfield United Methodist Church or Noble House.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
5

Eva Gump

ALBION — Eva L. Gump, 42, died at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 4, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne, after injuries from an automobile accident at Old State Road 3 and S.R. 3 in Avilla on May 24.

She was employed in the housekeeping department of Dexter Axle in Albion, and also did baby-sitting for several years. She was a member of Beacon Baptist Church in Kendallville. She moved to the area from Cleveland 10 years ago.

She was born in Cleveland Dec. 14, 1960, to Ernest L. Fekete and Sylvia (Gump) Hoy.

Surviving are her mother, Sylvia Hoy of Cleveland; two sons, Michael Alan Shanyfelt of Norfolk, Va., and Alan Eugene Shanyfelt of Albion; one sister, Clara Sexton of Oakridge, Tenn.; one brother, Dave Gump of Cleveland; four nieces, Michelle Hensley, Jennifer Lewis, Theresa Shanyfelt and Brittany Shanyfelt; three nephews, Justin Hileman, Brian Shanyfelt and Gary Ray Sexton; and five great-nieces and great-nephews.

Her father preceded her in death.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, Albion, with the Rev. Ronald Stratman officiating. Burial will be at Waterloo Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Beacon Baptist Church in Kendallville.

Margaret Schmenk

AVILLA — Margaret "Marge" Annette Schmenk, 63, died at 2:18 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, 2003, at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis where she had been a patient since May 1.

She was former deputy clerk for Avilla.

Services are pending at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla.

Margaret Schmenk

AVILLA — Margaret "Marge" Annette Schmenk, 63, died at 2:18 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, 2003, at Methodist Hospital, Indianapolis, where she had been a patient since May 1. She had received a lung transplant March 16.

She was formerly employed as deputy clerk for Avilla until she became ill. She lived in the community since 1961. She was past president of the American Legion Post 240 Ladies Auxiliary and a member of St. Mary's Rosary Society and the Wolcottville High School class of 1958.

She was born in LaGrange County March 20, 1940, to Raymond and Fannie (Fry) Ross.

She married James Schmenk June 20, 1961, at St. Gaspar Catholic Church in Rome City. He survives in Avilla.

Also surviving are two daughters and three sons-in-law, Carla and Jeff York of Tampa, Fla., Cara and David Bowman of Fort Wayne and Keith Ellert of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren, Jason Ellert and Andrew, Rebecca and Ashley Bowman; one sister, Kathy Ludlow of Schneider, Ind.; and one brother, Raymond Ross of Kendallville.

Preceding her in death was a daughter, Christine Ellert.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Avilla, with Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Burial will be at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 5 and 6 to 8 p.m., with rosary at 7 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to masses or to Methodist Hospital Lung Transplant Center, 1701 North Senate Blvd., P.O. Box 1367, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Carolyn Brown

KENDALLVILLE — Carolyn Sue Brown, 59, died about 6 a.m. Thursday, June 5, 2003, at home.

She was a cook and caregiver and trained harness horses. She moved from Garrett to Kendallville in 1972. She was past president of the American Legion Auxiliary and a member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary.

She was born in Huntington County Sept. 12, 1943, to Wilson Eli and Alice G. (Stratton) Elser.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Wilson "Tom" Jr. and Autumn Brown of Wolcottville; two grandchildren, Dirk and Drew Campbell; two sisters, Leta Hunnicutt Cronkhite of Fort Wayne and Bonnie Gillespie of Wolcottville; and two brothers, Donald Elser of Ossian and Wilson E. Elser Jr. of Kendallville.

Preceding her in death were a son, Steve A. Campbell II, who died December 1999, and a sister, Anna Green, who died December 2000.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Clarence Combs of Five Corner Baptist Church in Wolcottville officiating. Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday one hour before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to American Diabetes Association.

Dennis Gunder

LIGONIER — Dennis Lee Gunder, 59, of Bethel, Alaska, died April 13, 2003, in St. Luke's Hospital in Manila, Philippines, due to complications of meningitis.

He was born in Ligonier Dec. 10, 1943, to Glenn and Gladys Gunder. He lived in the Ligonier area for 26 years.

Surviving are three daughters, Faun Gunder Hauptman of Lakewood, Colo., and Valerie Warzewick and Bobbie Severn, both of Bethel, Alaska; a son, Glen Gunder of Bethel; two sisters, Helen Fuhrman of Angola and Linda Graf of Henderson, Nev.; and three grandchildren.

Two brothers preceded him in death.

Memorial services were held at the Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center, Bethel, April 27, with family and friends officiating.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at vissy.766@eudoramail.com

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Joseph Miles Schermerhorn** were Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Brimfield United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Michael Neff officiating. Burial was at Orange Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Joe Schermerhorn, Josh Schermerhorn, Scott Keisel, Alan Gove, Jeremy Gove and Joshua Gove.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
7

Thomas Lindsey

DUNEDIN, Fla. — Thomas "Tom" Wade Lindsey, 62, of Dunedin, Fla., formerly of Kendallville, died Friday, May 23, 2003.

In Kendallville on Jan. 19, 1941, he was born to Russell O. and Martha El (Gandy) Lindsey.

Mr. Lindsey graduated from Kendallville High School in 1959, attended Purdue University and graduated from Oregon State University, Corvalis, Ore., in 1964, where he completed his master's degree in 1968.

He was a member of Kappa Delta Rho, a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War, and was quartermaster of the Dunedin V.F.W. Post 2550. He retired after 28 years at Michigan Tech University in Houghton, Mich., as a resident counselor and then moved to Dunedin.

Surviving are: his mother in Dunedin; two sisters, Victoria "Vicki" Lindsey, Dunedin, and Judith "Jil" Leatherman, Albion, Ind.; a niece, Lindsey M. Leatherman, Albion; two nephews, Scott R. and Dustin W. Leatherman, Albion; and a great-nephew, Colby Reid Leatherman.

A memorial service was held May 29 at V.F.W. Post No. 2550 in Dunedin.

Preferred memorials are to the Curlew United Methodist Church, 2213 Cathedral Drive, Palm Harbor, FL 34683.

Kenneth F. Myers

CORUNNA — Kenneth F. Myers, 92, died Wednesday, June 4, 2003, at Kendallville Manor Healthcare, Kendallville.

He worked at Warner/Auburn Gear for more than 30 years, retiring in 1973. He was a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Auburn.

He was born March 7, 1911, in St. Johns, Ind., to Elmer and Emma (Reed) Myers.

He married Irene Friend on June 23, 1940, in Auburn and she survives in Auburn.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Margey and Richard Norris of Auburn and Marilyn Myers of Corunna; two step-grandchildren, Gregg Norris of Fort Wayne and Jeff Norris of Carmel; and five step-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two sisters and one brother.

Private family services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at the Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, with the Rev. Richard Pickard officiating.

There will be no calling.

Burial will be in Cedar Creek Cemetery.

Memorials are to St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 8 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Mr. Folck loved politics, baseball, car

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ANGOLA — Keith Folck loved the city of Angola, and loved being a part of its government.

Keith L. Folck, 74, died Monday, May 26, 2003, at Parkview Memorial Hospital, Fort Wayne. He was born Nov. 2, 1928, in Steuben County, to Ford and Mabel (Mugg) Folck. He married Patricia Lenhart on Oct. 8, 1953, and she survives.

"He had been diagnosed with bladder cancer about a year and a half ago. He had his bladder removed, and he had been doing very, very well. This was very sudden and very much a shock," his son Chip said.

Mr. Folck

Mr. Folck was a member of the Angola Common Council, representing District C, from 1984 to 1999. He was a 16-year member of the Angola Board of Works and Public Safety.

"He loved being on the council and the board of works," Chip said. "He debated the idea of running for mayor several years ago, and darn near did it."

Mr. Folck was the owner of Folck's Body Shop in Angola for 42 years. He enjoyed restoring classic cars.

"He restored everything from Rolls Royces to Duesenbergs, and he had a couple of Cords," said Chip said. "There was nothing he could not fix … it was just in his nature."

Mr. Folck was a devoted father to his children.

"He was fantastic," Chip said. "He was always the coach of our baseball teams in little league, pony league and Mickey Mantle League. We even went to state tournaments a couple of times with him as our coach."

Mr. Folck's love of basel
went beyond his children.

"Dad loved baseball," C
said. "He liked the Cincin
Reds and the Detroit Tige
He kind of followed Spa
Anderson."

He was a veteran of
U.S. Army, and served in t
Korean Conflict.

He belonged to Ango
Masonic Lodge No. 23
Angola American Legion Po
No. 31 and the Auburn Co
Duesenberg Club.

Also surviving are anothe
son, Jeffery Folck; a siste
Phyllis Crothers, and fou
grandchildren, Cassie, Ale
Tony and Aubrey Morga
Folck.

Douglas Inks

ISLANDIA, New York — Douglas G. Inks, 52, died June 2, 2003, in New York.

He was a maintenance worker at Hilton Hall Apartments and a veteran of Vietnam, serving in the U.S. Army.

He was born Nov. 8, 1950, to Robert and Beverly (Hunter) Inks.

Surviving are three brothers, Robert, Dennis and Ronald Inks; a niece, Stephanie; and a good good friend, Maryanne. Preceding him in death were his parents.

Services are at 10:30 a.m. Monday at the Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, 705 S. Main Street, Ligonier, the Rev. Jim Barnes of Cosperville Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Calling is from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

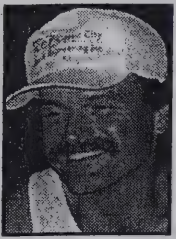
Arrangements in New York were by Thomas F. Dalton Funeral Homes.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 8 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Amstutz found ministry in well drilling

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

SPENCERVILLE — Michael Amstutz's life was devoted to helping others — his family, his customers, his community and fellow cancer patients.


Mr. Amstutz

The 53-year-old owner of Amstutz Well Drilling died Saturday, May 24, at his home after battling brain cancer since December 2001.

"Dad was one of those rare persons who devoted himself to helping others, often sacrificing time with his family in the process," said Amy Allen, his daughter. "If someone was out of water, he didn't leave until the job was done; his was not a 9 to 5 job."

At the age of 8, Mr. Amstutz started well drilling with his father, Gerry.

"He was always interested in tools; on a job I could ask him for any tool and he would know what I wanted," the elder Amstutz said.

In fact, for a recent Christmas, Michael Amstutz bought toolboxes for his granddaughters, Alexa and Blair.

The girls were "the love of his life," Allen said of her girls. "He loved to read to them.

"Dad was very intelligent," Allen noted. He was the first valedictorian at Carroll High School in 1969 and had numerous scholarship opportunities, but chose the family business.

"He had a deep love for the outdoors, and for well drilling," his daughter said. And, for his wife, Dara (Chapman).

"Mom sacrificed and supported dad, and has a well driller's license, too," Allen said. "She was the backbone of that relationship."

The strong family ties include Allen's husband, Bret, who joined his father-in-law in the business more than 10 years ago.

"I can see what my mom went through, as I am now a well driller's wife," she quipped.

An example of her father's desire to help others, Allen said, was in how he would rebuild motors and pumps, charging only what he thought people could afford.

"He was especially kind to the elderly," Allen noted. "Many times, he wouldn't charge an elderly customer for a job."

The Sons of the American Legion Post 409 in Leo-Cedarville, of which Mr. Amstutz was a charter member, spearheaded a community benefit to help him and his family with medical expenses. Allen said the outpouring of donations was a tribute to how her father had lived his life.

"Friends came out of the woodwork," she said. More than 120 people visited him in the hospital when he had brain surgery, leading the family pastor, Jean Brindle of the Leo United Methodist Church, to comment: "I didn't know there was so much ministry in well drilling."

On the day her father left the hospital, Allen recalled, her father visited another man who had cancer, too. "He was just always thinking of others," she said.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 8 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Farming, fairs important to Joe Schermerhorn

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — Joe Schermerhorn grew up on a farm near Brimfield, on property in the family since the Civil War.

The farm and county and state fairs were always important to Joe, his children said. It was at the county fair one year that he spied the girl who would one day be his wife. Millie Harper was 13.

"He was looking at the girls from Brimfield, and he's been looking ever since," she said.

The two became an item, and in December 1940, the couple had the first wedding ceremony ever held in the Brimfield United Methodist Church. They set up housekeeping on the farm and eventually had three children, a son, Steve, and two daughters, Jan and Kay.

Mr. Schermerhorn

Theirs daughters Jan Hundey and Kay Klinger, both of Michigan, said their father was a wonderful dad and grandfather. "He always supported his kids, no matter what, especially with their 4-H projects — getting their animals ready for the fair," said Jan.

On one trip to the Indiana State Fair, Joe and Millie talked with, and photographed, a new singing group from England, touring the United States — The Beatles.

Joe supported his children through personal problems. "He had a great sense of humor," Jan said, and handed out homespun wisdom whenever the need arose. When the girls got dressed up for some special event, their dad would encourage them with, "Act as good as you look!" When his daughters began to notice shifting clothing styles, Joe would remind his girls not to judge people by the way they looked. "You can't tell how far a frog will jump just by looking at him," he would say.

After 33 years on the farm, the couple turned the property over to their son Steve and moved into a new home at the foot of Baby Mountain — a home Millie designed herself. Joe often said of the move, "You can't take the boy off the farm, but you can't take the farm out of the boy."

Joe had attended college classes, both at Purdue and the University of Wisconsin, and although he was no longer farming, he continued to be active in local and state farming interests, including a stint as head of the Noble County Farm Bureau and State Fair Board.

Joe was also a 20-yea member of the board o Campbell & Fetter Bank, a well as the board of East Nobl School Corp. His famil remembers his optimisti attitude. He often quipped "It's a great day to be alive!"

In 2000, the couple celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a special event. They returned to the same Brimfield church where Joe held an 80-year membership and where they'd tied the original knot. Before family and longtime friends and associates, the couple renewed their vows to each other.

Joe had been ill the last few years, and Monday, at the age of 85, he went home. "Blessed is the man .... he is like a tree planted by the waters, that yields it fruit in season ... the Lord knows the way of the righteous."

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 9 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Douglas Shearer

LIGONIER — Douglas Don Shearer, 70, died at 11:17 p.m. Saturday, June 7, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was a lifelong resident of the area. He had operated the DX station in Ligonier in the early 1970s and later the Sunoco station. He had worked at Starcraft Automotive in Goshen and retired form Freudenberg NOK in Ligonier. He had served on the Ligonier Volunteer Fire Department for 19 years. He was a member of Elks Lodge 451, the Lions Club and Historical Society, all in Ligonier. He enjoyed gardening and spending time with his grandchildren, great-grandchildren and his beloved dog.

He was born in Ligonier Oct. 1, 1932, to Edward Charles and Eva Virginia (Kiester) Shearer.

He married Kay Rose Taylor Feb. 17, 1951, in Ligonier. She survives.

Also surviving are four sons and daughters-in-law, Michael Eugene and Cheri Shearer, Mark Douglas and Kimberley Shearer and Mitchell Edward and Linda Shearer, all of Ligonier and Martin Jay and Kathy Shearer of Goshen; two daughters and a son-in-law, Brenda Kay Wilson of Ligonier and Becky Raynee and Oscar Jackson of Cromwell; a brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Jean Shearer of Auburn; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

A brother, Edward Charles "Eddie" Shearer II, preceded him in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, with Father Dale Bauman officiating. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Ligonier Volunteer Fire Department.

Ruth Boman

WATERLOO — Ruth H. Boman, 94, died at 6:50 a.m. Sunday, June 8, 2003, at Betz Nursing Home, Auburn.

She was a bookkeeper for Boman and Albright Inc., Waterloo, retiring in 1963. She was a member of the Waterloo United Methodist Church, a life member of the Eastern Star and Pythesis Sisters, and a former member of the DeKalb Memorial Hospital Guild. She was very active as a volunteer at the hospital and sewed.

She was born July 22, 1908, in Edgerton, Ohio, to William A. and Bessie B. (Yoder) Frager. She married Clide Boman Jan. 1, 1927, in Wauseon, Ohio. He died Oct. 5, 1993.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Jerry and Marcella Boman, Kendallville; two daughters and sons-in-law, Vereda and B.L. Albright and Nancy and George Delong, Waterloo; 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death with her husband and parents were a brother, Willard Frager, and three sisters, Nora Hopkins, Iris Schooley and Dorothy Siebenalour.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with the Rev. John Hostetter officiating. Burial will be in Waterloo Cemetery. Calling will be from 2 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home. Memorials are to the Waterloo United Methodist Church.

Heidi Hostetler

SHIPSHEWANA — Heidi Salome Hostetler, 2, died at 5:47 a.m. Sunday, June 8, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne, as the result of an accidental drowning.

She enjoyed Sunday school and Wednesday services at the Roselawn Conservative Mennonite Church.

Heidi Hostetler

She was born in LaGrange June 12, 2000, to David Lee and Dorothy J. (Bontrager) Hostetler.

Also surviving are her grandparents, Josey and Judy Bontrager and Edward and Anna Marie Hostetler, all of Shipshewana; her matenal great-grandparents, Levi and Mandy Jones of Shipshewana; and two brothers, Timothy Allen and Dominic Joseph Hostetler, both at home.

She was preceded in death by a brother, David Hostetler Jr.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Shore Mennonite Church, Shipshewana, with the Revs. Thad Lechlitner and Troy Brubacher of Roselawn Conservative Mennonite Church officiating. Burial will be at Shore Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 6 to 8 p.m. and Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Emma Mennonite Church, Topeka.

Memorials are to International F.O.P. (fibrodysplasia ossificans progressive) Association, a condition Heidi suffered from since birth.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
9

Ralph Keck Jr.

WOLCOTTVILLE — Ralph E. Keck Jr., 73, died Saturday, June 7, 2003, in Fort Wayne.

He was born in Avilla March 13, 1930, to Ralph and Ruth (Walburn) Keck Sr.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, serving during the Korean conflict. He was a member of the American Legion post in LaGrange and the Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church in Woodruff.

He first married Dorothy Seuver. She died September 1983. He then married Lois Gunsenhoser May 11, 2002, in Woodruff. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Terry and Joan Keck of Wolcottville and Kerry and Shelly Keck of Wawaka; three stepsons and their spouses, Paul and Marie Turner of New Haven, Stacy and Mylnn Turner of Fort Wayne and Glen and Randy Turner of Wolcottville; a stepdaughter and her husband, Pamela and Greg Cassady of Detroit; two grandsons, Eric Keck of Kendallville and Kyle Keck of Wawaka; a granddaughter, Kasey Keck of Wawaka; 11 step-grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; four brothers, Richard Keck Sr. and Jay Keck, both of Wolcottville, Wayne Keck of Wawaka and Larry Keck of Cromwell; and two sisters, Phyllis Vanderpool of Wolcottville and Helen Baird of Kendallville.

Preceding him in death were four brothers, Phil, Ivan, Lynn and Byron Keck; and one sister, Virginian Diehm.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Richard Fredericks officiating. Burial will be at Woodland Cemetery in Wolcottville.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church.

Condolences may be e-mailed at www.hitefuneral-home.com.

Douglas Inks

LIGONIER — Douglas G. Inks, 52, of Islandia, N.Y., died Monday, June 2, 2003, in New York.

He worked in maintenance for Hilton Hall Apartments. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Vietnam War.

He was born Nov. 8, 1950, to Robert and Beverly (Hunter) Inks.

Surviving are three brothers, Robert, Dennis and Ronald Inks; a niece, Stephanie; and friend, Maryanne.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Services were today at 10:30 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Jim Barnes of Cosperville Baptist Church officiating. Burial was at Oak Park Cemetery, Ligonier.

Thomas F. Dalton Funeral Homes was in charge of arrangements in New York.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 9 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Jack Scowden

KENDALLVILLE — Jack L. Scowden, 69, died Sunday, June 8, 2003, at home. Services pending at Hite Funeral Home.

Allen Moore

FORT WAYNE — Allen Cabot Moore, 85, died Friday, June 6, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

He was owner of Better Beeper of Fort Wayne Inc. He was know as an innovator in the communications industry. He was chief engineer at World Broadcasting/Decca Records, Chicago, motion picture sound engineer for Med Maxwell Productions, Fort Wayne, and sound technician at remote locations for "The Lutheran Hour" radio program. A pioneer in radiotelephone and radiopaging telecommunications, he documented and presented to the FCC the need for separately dedicated radiopaging frequencies; his company received the first license ever issued for a dedicated radio-paging frequency. He also re-established the only radio station in Huntington, WCER AM 1300, from 1988 to 1991. For 50 years he was also a member of Anthony Wayne Lions Club. He was a private pilot, short wave ham radio operator and enjoyed boating.

Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Charlotte "Sherry" Moore; three daughters and one son-in-law, Judith Allyn Wall and Patricia Allyn Moore, both of Fort Wayne and Sherry and Michael Sterrett of Pleasant Hill, Calif.; one brother, Alfred Moore of Fort Wayne; five grandchildren, Jacqui Damerell of Kendallville, Michelle Wall of Indianapolis, Laura Deutsch of Yorba Linda, Calif., Christina Whitmire of Antioch, Calif., and David Sterrett of Pacheco, Calif.; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Covington Knolls Park Funeral Home, 8325 Covington Road. Burial will be at Greenlawn Cemetery.

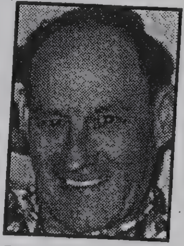
Calling will be today and Wednesday, from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorials are to Animal Care and Control of Fort Wayne and Visiting Nurse Service Hospice Home.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 10 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Jack Scowden

KENDALLVILLE — Jack L. Scowden, 69, died Sunday, June 8, 2003, at home.


Mr. Scowden

He was a pastor at several area churches and was currently the assistant pastor at the True Church of God in Jesus' Name in Lisbon.

Mr. Scowden was a shoe cobbler for 11 years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, where he served as a helicopter and airplane mechanic. Following his military service, he became a machinist and rebuilt automobile engines. He worked for many years at Kendallville Auto Parts.

He was born Jan. 10, 1934, to Earl and Fannie (Hardesty) Scowden in Essex, Mo.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Jackie Warnick of Columbia City and Sharon and Craig Bickel of Washington, Mich.; a sister, Opal Robb of Chicago; and three grandchildren, Caleb, Noel and Jacob Bickel, all of Washington, Mich.

Preceding him in death were 10 brothers and sisters.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at True Church of God in Jesus' Name in Lisbon, with the Revs. Worley Gibson and Abe Prater officiating. Burial will be at Sweet Cemetery near Albion.

Calling will be today after 2 p.m., with a praise service at 6 p.m. at the church.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Dorothy Blake

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Dorothy Blake, 92, of Grand Rapids and formerly of Kendallville, died Friday, June 6, 2003.

She had worked for 22 years for the former Jacobson's store in East Grand Rapids. She and her husband and his parents, Fred and Lucia Blake, were involved in many hotel enterprises, including the former Cody Hotel in Grand Rapids and the Kendall Hotel in Kendallville.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Susan J. Blake of Ann Arbor and Linda and Stephen Taft of Grandville; grandchildren and their spouses, Deborah and Roger Harig, Andrew and Tiffany Taft, William, Ashley and Tiffany Pitt and Paul Blake; great-grandchildren, David and Rachel Harig and McKenzie and Parker Taft; nephews, Steve and Jeffrey Shephard and Tim Bowsher; and a niece, Melanie, and husband, Frank Coney.

Preceding her in death were her husband, William F. Blake; a son, David Blake; and siblings, Jane Bowser and Juddson Shephard.

Services will be Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. at Pederson Funeral Home, Rockford, Mich., with Pastor Garry Koon officiating. Burial will be in White Chapel Cemetery, Troy, Mich.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Hospice of Greater Grand Rapdis, 1260- Ekhart, NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Carolyn Brown

KENDALLVILLE — Carolyn Sue Brown, 59, died about 6 a.m. Thursday, June 5, 2003, at home.

Mrs. Brown

She was a cook and caregiver and trained harness horses. She moved from Garrett to Kendallville in 1972. She was past president of the American Legion Auxiliary and a member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary.

She was born in Huntington County Sept. 12, 1943, to Wilson Eli and Alice G. (Stratton) Elser.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Wilson "Tom" Jr. and Autumn Brown of Wolcottville; two grandchildren, Dirk and Drew Campbell; two sisters, Leta Hunnicutt Cronkhite of Fort Wayne and Bonnie Gillespie of Wolcottville; and two brothers, Donald Elser of Ossian and Wilson E. Elser Jr. of Kendallville.

Preceding her in death were a son, Steve A. Campbell II, who died August 1999, and a sister, Anna Green, who died June 2000.

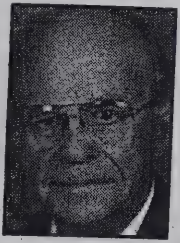
Services were held Saturday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. Clarence Combs officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Memorials are to American Diabetes Association.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 11 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Ralph Hasselman

KENDALLVILLE — Ralph H. Hasselman, 82, died Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at home.


Mr. Hasselman

He was a retired farmer. He was a member of St. John Lutheran Church in Kendallville and past member of Zion Lutheran Church, where he had served as Sunday school superintendent, elder and trustee.

He was born in Kendallville April 15, 1921, to Henry and Helena (Pankop) Hasselman.

He married Genevieve Parr Aug. 29, 1954, in Corunna. She survives in Kendallville.

Also surviving are six daughters and five sons-in-law, Sue and Phillip Stephan of Fort Wayne, Sally Fitch of Fort Wayne, Carol and Tom Stoneburner of Kendallville, Janet and Kent Hunter of Corunna, Joan and Randy Ackerman of Kendallville and Debra and Dennis Bruce of Huntertown; 12 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and a sister and brother-in-law, Lucille and Harold Hecht of Kendallville.

Preceding him in death were four brothers, William, Arthur, Carl and Howard Hasselman, and three sisters, Anna Lehman, Flora Gehring and Henrietta Pankop.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church in Kendallville. Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home and one hour before services Friday.

Memorials are to St. John Lutheran Church or St. John Lutheran School.

Condolences may be e-mailed at www.hitefuneral-home.com.

Robert Miller

FORT WAYNE — Robert A. Miller, 95, died Thursday, June 5, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He was retired from Foster Park Golf Course after 26 years as a groundskeeper. He had also worked at the Knitting Mill for 27 years. He was a World War II Navy veteran.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are one brother, Ervin "Bud" Miller of Fort Wayne; and one sister, Dorothy Smith of Albion.

Preceding him in death were his wife, Florence, who died in 1985; his three children, Marilyn, Barbara and Ralph Miller; three sisters; and one brother.

Services will be Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Home for Funerals, 6810 Old Trail Road, Fort Wayne.

Calling will be today from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Goodwin Memorial Chapel, Bluffton, is in charge of arrangements.

Nellie Pequignot

FORT WAYNE — Nellie M. Rice Pequignot, 90, died Monday, June 9, 2003, at home.

She was a homemaker, former member of Elex Club of G.E., and a telegraher at G.E. for two years.

She was born in Sheldon.

Surviving are two sons, Richard P. Pequignot of Fort Wayne and James A. Pequignot of Clearwater, Fla.; two daughters, Judith Martony of New Haven and Joyce Boyce of Indianapolis; four brothers, Roscoe F. Rice of Hudson, Robert P. Rice of North Fort Myers, Fla.; Joseph O. Rice of Fort Wayne and Harold A. Rice of Adams Lake; 20 grandchildren; and 31 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Arthur F., who died in 1988; a sister, Esther Woolard; and brothers, John and Otto Rice..

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 2120 S. Harrison St. Burial will be at Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m., with vigil at 8:30 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home, 1140 Lake Ave., and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Allen County Cancer Society, St. Patrick Catholic Church, or to Masses.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 11 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Margaret Elaine Reynolds

MIDDLEBURY — Margaret Elaine Ollie Ruble Reynolds, 70, died at 2:10 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at the home of her daughter, Cindy Wagner of Middlebury, where she was residing.

Services are pending at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville.

Beverly Nichols

KENDALLVILLE — Beverly R. Nichols, 86, died at 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Services are pending at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Walter Eckels

KENDALLVILLE — Walter C. Eckels, 92, formerly of Kendallville and rural LaOtto, died at 10:43 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at Windsor Estates Health & Rehabilitation Center in Kokomo.

His wife Evelyn (Cuney) Eckels died March 12, 1974.

Among surviving relatives is his daughter, Carolyn Eckels of Greentown; and several nieces and nephews.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco. Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

ALBION NEW ERA
2003
JUNE 11

Paul Buckles

WATERLOO – Paul D. Buckles, 59, died Tuesday, June 3, 2003, at his home.

He was a forklift driver for Food Marketing Corp. in Fort Wayne, where he had worked for 38 years.

Mr. Buckles was born November 15, 1943, in Columbia City. His father, Russell Earl Buckles, preceded him in death. His mother, Lavina Owens Maulsby, survives in Avilla.

He married Nancy Teders on April 3, 1965, in Avilla. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Anthony Buckles of Waterloo and Michael Buckles of Metz; two daughters, Jodi Hughes of Auburn and Kimberly Ely of Waterloo; four brothers, Donald, George and Richard of Avilla and Jim of Kendallville; and 13 grandchildren.

Services were held Friday, June 6, 2003, at the Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo. The Rev. Ed Hughes officiated. Burial was in Waterloo Cemetery.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health and Hospice of Kendallville.

Eva Gump

ALBION – Eva L. Gump, 42, died Wednesday, June 4, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne, after injuries from an automobile accident at Old State Road 3 and S.R. 3 in Avilla on May 24.

She was employed in the housekeeping department of Dexter Axle in Albion, and also did baby-sitting for several years. She was a member of Beacon Baptist Church in Kendallville. She moved to the area from Cleveland 10 years ago.

She was born in Cleveland December 14, 1960, to Ernest L. Fekete and Sylvia (Gump) Hoy.

Surviving are her mother, Sylvia Hoy of Cleveland; two sons, Michael Alan Shanyfelt of Norfolk, VA, and Alan Eugene Shanyfelt of Albion; one sister, Clara Sexton of Oakridge, TN; one brother, Dave Gump of Cleveland; four nieces, Michelle Hensley, Jennifer Lewis, Theresa Shanyfelt and Brittany Shanyfelt; three nephews, Justin Hileman, Brian Shanyfelt and Gary Ray Sexton; and five great-nieces and great-nephews.

Her father preceded her in death.

Services were held Saturday, June 7, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion. The Rev. Ronald Stratman officiated. Burial was in the Waterloo Cemetery.

Memorials are to Beacon Baptist Church in Kendallville.

Ralph Keck, Jr.

WOLCOTTVILLE – Ralph E. Keck, Jr., 73, died Saturday, June 7, 2003, in Fort Wayne.

He was born in Avilla March 13, 1930, to Ralph and Ruth (Walburn) Keck, Sr.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, serving during the Korean Conflict. He was a member of the American Legion Post in LaGrange and the Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church in Woodruff.

He first married Dorothy Seuver. She died September 1983. He then married Lois Gunsenhoser May 11, 2002, in Woodruff. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Terry and Joan Keck of Wolcottville and Kerry and Shelly Keck of Wawaka; three stepsons and their spouses, Paul and Marie Turner of New Haven, Stacy and Mylnn Turner of Fort Wayne and Glen and Randy Turner of Wolcottville; a step-daughter and her husband, Pamela and Greg Cassady of Detroit; two grandsons, Eric Keck of Kendallville and Kyle Keck of Wawaka; a grand-daughter, Kasey Keck of Wawaka; 11 step-grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; four brothers, Richard Keck, Sr. and Jay Keck, both of Wolcottville, Wayne Keck of Wawaka and Larry Keck of Cromwell; and two sisters, Phyllis Vanderpool of Wolcottville and Helen Baird of Kendallville.

Preceding him in death were four brothers, Phil, Ivan, Lynn and Byron Keck; and one sister, Virginian Diehm.

Services were held Wednesday, June 11, 2003, at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville with the Rev. Richard Fredericks officiating. Burial was in the Woodland Cemetery in Wolcottville.

Memorials are to Woodruff Grove United Methodist Church.

ALBION NEW ERA
JUNE 11 2003

Ruby Kiser

WARSAW – Ruby N. Lewallen Kiser, 86, died Monday, June 2, 2003, at her home.

She was a lifelong area resident. She retired from Monsanto in Ligonier in 1980, and co-operated the Lewallen Saw Mill in North Webster for 30 years. She was a member of the North Webster Church of the Brethren and the Northeast Indiana Steam & Gas Engine Club.

She was born in North Webster March 14, 1917, to Matthew Isaac and Elsie Mabel (Hamman) Firestone.

She married Charles M. Lewallen August 29, 1938. He died May 14, 1988. She married Ralph L. Kiser August 8, 1989. He died June 28, 1998.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Karen and Loren Keister of Albion and Evan and Jack Hamilton of Milford; three sons and one daughter-in-law, Jerry Lewallen of Goshen, Larry and Goldie Lewallen of South Whitley and Dennis Lewallen of Oswego; 13 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and one stepson and his wife, Terry and Janet Kiser of North Webster.

She was preceded in death by a sister and two grandchildren.

Services were held Thursday, June 5, 2003, at Mishler-Eastlund Funeral Home, Harris Chapel, Syracuse.

Memorials are to the North Webster Church of the Brethren or the Kosciusko County Cancer Care Fund.

Margaret Schmenk

AVILLA – Margaret "Marge" Annette Schmenk, 63, of Avilla, died Wednesday, June 4, 2003, at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis.

Born March 20, 1940, in LaGrange, she was a Deputy Clerk for Avilla for 13 years until becoming ill. She was past president of the American Legion Post 240 Ladies Auxiliary, St. Mary's Rosary Society, and Wolcottville High School Class of 1958.

Surviving are her husband, James "Jim" Schmenk of Avilla; daughters and sons-in-law, Carla and Jeff York of Tampa, FL, Cara and David Bowman of Fort Wayne; son-in-law, Keith Ellert of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren; sister, Kathy Ludlow of Schneider; and brother, Raymond Ross of Kendallville.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Raymond and Fannie (Fry) Ross.

Services were held Saturday, June 7, 2003, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla. Burial was at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Avilla.

Memorials are to Masses or Methodist Hospital Lung Transplant Center in Indianapolis.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 12 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Susan Bontrager

BRONSON, Mich. — Susan Elizabeth Bontrager, 69, died Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at home following a six-year illness.

In addition to her family in Michigan, Mrs. Bontrager also has relatives in Allen, Steuben and LaGrange counties.

Services will be held at the home of Mrs. Bontrager's daughter and son-in-law, Elma and Jacob Brandenberger, at 755 Pleasant Hill Road, Bronson, at 8:30 a.m. Friday. Calling is at the Brandenberger any time today.

Burial will be in Pleasant Hill Cemetery.

Arrangements were by Kolcz Funeral Home, Bronson.

Calvin Bricker

FORT WAYNE — Calvin "Cal" J. Bricker, 78, died Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at home.

He was a pump operator with the city of Fort Wayne for 35 years, retiring in 1988. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife, Martha C. of Fort Wayne; son, Wayne A. of Fort Wayne; brother, Dale E. of LaGrange; sisters, Betty L. Riley and Norma J. Trainer, both of Waynedale; and grandson, Reuben C. of New Haven.

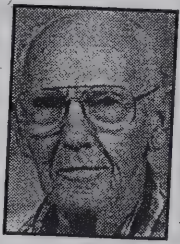
Services will be Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 5401 Saint Joe Road. Burial will be Covington Memorial Gardens.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Maplewood Park Funeral Home, 4017 Maplecrest Road and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Walter Eckels

KOKOMO — Walter C. Eckels, 92, formerly of Kendallville and rural LaOtto, and more recently of Kokomo, died at 10:43 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at Windsor Estates Health & Rehabilitation Center in Kokomo. He had been a patient there since March 29.


Mr. Eckels

As a young man he worked as a custodian at Wayne Center School near Kendallville for eight years, and began work at General Electric in Fort Wayne in 1942. He worked at Standyne Distribution Center in Garrett for over eight years, retiring from there in 1975. He lived east of Ege in Noble County where he farmed and drove school bus for 12 years. In addition, he had been a self-employed retail florist for over 25 years.

He moved to Arkansas after his wife died, returning to Kendallville in 1991. He had attended Nazarene churches in Kendallville and Garrett and was currently attending the Bon Air Church of the Nazarene in Kokomo.

He was born in Jefferson Township, Noble County Nov. 14, 1910, to Cloise and Edna Rose Eckels.

He married Mary Evelyn Cuney July 22, 1944. She died March 12, 1974.

Surviving are his daughter, Carolyn Eckels of Greentown; a sister, Lillian Fox of Horseshoe Bend, Ark.; and several nieces and nephews.

Also preceding him in death were a sister, Vera Melvin; a niece; and two nephews.

Graveside services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Riverview Cemetery, south of Churubusco.

Additional services will be today at 7 p.m. at Bon Air Church of the Nazarene, 2419 N. Locke St., Kokomo, with calling two hours before services.

Local calling will be Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco.

Memorials are to the Bon Air Church of the Nazarene or the American Cancer Society.

Condolences may be e-mailed at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Jack Scowden** were held Wednesay at 11 a.m. at the True Church of God, with the Rev. Abe Prater and Worley Gibson officiating. Burial was at Sweet Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Sonny Stanley, Ovie Mitchell, Truman Lippley, Tommy Keene, Junior Brewster and Craig Bickel officiating.

Hite Funeral Home in kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Carolyn Sue Brown** were held Saturday at 11 a.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. Clarence Combs officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Mary Hunnicutt, Rob Schmulz, Jim Leslie, Josh Leslie, Bruce Richman, Steve Ingram, Jeff Heck and Dennis Orr.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 12 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Beverly Nichols

KENDALLVILLE — Beverly R. Nichols, 86, died at 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, 2003, in Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Mrs. Nichols

She was a lifetime area resident. She was a homemaker and worked at Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville from 1985 to 1996. She was a charter member of Farmerettes Home Demonstration Club.

She was born in Noble County Aug. 19, 1916, to B. Harry and Glendis (Forker) Smith.

She married Elvert Harold Nichols Dec. 13, 1934, in Albion. He died Jan. 25, 1983.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Barbra and Alfred Ordway of Hamilton; a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Becky Nichols of Kendallville; three grandchildren and one spouse, Cindy Ordway, Dennis Ordway and Jon and Crystal Nichols; two great-grandchildren, Brandon and Kordell Nichols; and three sisters, Glyndon Wright of Kendallville, Joan Bryant of Wolcottville and Carole Halferty of South Milford.

Preceding her in death were three brothers, Lauren, Harold and Gale Smith; and two sisters, Thelma Svoboda and Arlene Longyear.

Services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. James Toole of Faith United Methodist Church in Kendallville officiating. Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday one hour before services.

Memorials are to Child Evangelism Fellowship in Auburn or to the donor's choice.

Earl Miller

MISSION, Texas — Earl Albert Miller, 78, died Saturday, June 7, 2003, at McAllen Medical Center in McAllen, Texas.

Mr. Miller worked in quality control for Dana Corp. in Auburn for 27 years. He was a World War II Navy veteran, receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and two Air Medals.

He was born in Butler on Nov. 3, 1924, to Donald E. and Edna M. (Countryman) Miller.

He lived in Garrett until 1989, before moving to Mission, Texas.

He married Sally Fetter on Sept. 16, 1945, in Garrett. She survives in Mission.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Tonya and James Reinoehl and Ramona and Mark Michael, all of Corunna; a son and daughter-in-law, Vincent and Carol Miller of Tippecanoe; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Alice Lautzenhiser.

Services will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with Lloyd Mealer officiating.

Calling is Tuesday from 1-2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Comfort House, 617 Dallas St., McAllen, TX 78501.

Condolences may be sent to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

The following obituary is being rerun to include information on a memorial service.

Mary Rodgers

ORLAND — Mary Ann Rodgers, 78, died June 1, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

Rodgers was a retired social case worker for the Steuben County Welfare Department. Her husband, Harry (Gene) Rodgers, preceded her in death on Sept. 12, 2000.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at Orland American Legion Post 423.

Memorials are to American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 2680, North Canton, OH 44720.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
12

Margaret Elaine Reynolds

MIDDLEBURY — Margaret Elaine Ollie Ruble Reynolds, 70, died at 2:10 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at the home of her daughter, Cindy Wagner, with whom she resided. She had been ill since May 1.

She was a homemaker and member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Rome City and Moose Lodge in Kendallville. She was a former area resident and had returned to the area from Fort Pierce, Fla.,

Mrs. Reynolds

She was born in Basin, Wyo., Jan. 19, 1933, to Alex and Thelma (Phillips) Kaiser.

She first married Farold Dalton Ruble in January 1948. He died Jan. 6, 1962. She then married Hugh B. Reynolds Jr. Dec. 23, 1987. He died Jan. 27, 2000.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Barry D. and Mona Ruble of Avilla; two daughters and a son-in-law, Darlene Holsinger of Fort Pierce, Fla., and Cindy and William A. Wagner of Middlebury; two brothers, Ernie Kaiser of Phoenix and Marvin Hart of Kendallville; a grandson, Steven Holsinger of Hendersonville, N.C.; four nieces; and two nephews.

Preceding her in death were a son, Kevin Daryl Ruble; and two grandchildren, Brian Keith Holsinger and Debra Sue Holsinger.

Services will be Friday at 1 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Calling will be Friday beginning at 11 a.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Hospice, LaGrange Branch, or to the American Diabetes Association.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
13

Co-owner of St. James Restaurant, Evelyn T. Freeman, dies at 82

Mrs. Freeman

AVILLA — Evelyn T. Freeman, 82, died at 2:50 p.m. Thursday, June 12, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

She was a founder and co-owner, with her husband, William, of the St. James Restaurant until her retirement in 1980. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Rosary Sodality.

She was born in Avilla April 21, 1921, to William G. and Gertrude (Snyder) Meyer.

She married William S. Freeman Sept. 25, 1940, in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla. He died Feb. 16, 1992.

Surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Jeanne and Jack Allison of Columbus, Ind.; and three sons and two daughters-in-law, William and Chris Freeman and Thomas Freeman, all of Avilla, and Robert and Beth Freeman of Albion; 20 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; three sisters, Agnes Tilbury of Fort Wayne, Bernadette Teders and Sister Marie Meyer of Avilla; and three brothers, Bernard, Francis and Edward Meyer, all of Avilla.

Preceding her in death were a daughter, Carol Wright; a son, Charles Freeman; four sisters, Wilma Schmenk, Mildred Fischer and Mary and Florence Meyer; and two brothers, Robert and Herman Meyer.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, with Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Burial will be at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. with rosary service at 7:30 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to masses at St. Mary's or to the St. Mary School building fund.

Berniece Troop

Mrs. Troop

MULBERRY, Fla., — Berniece (Mankey) Troop, 83, formerly of Fort Wayne, died Wednesday, May 7, 2003, at home in Mulberry.

She had worked at Sears and U.S. Rubber Co. before moving to Florida in 1974. She was a member of American Legion Post 72 of Mulberry.

She was born in Berne, April 4, 1920.

Surviving are two daughters, Victoria Mims and Carolita Edwards, both of Mulberry; two sons, Lewis Troop Jr. of St. Cloud, Fla., and John "Joe" Shaw of Churubusco; 14 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren; a sister-in-law, Grace Ley of Avilla; and sister and brother-in-law, Kate and Charles Albin of Tuscola, Ill.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Lewis, who died in 1993; a daughter, Gloria Rainey, who died in 1981; a sister, Ruth Hall; and a brother, Chris Mankey.

Services were held May 11 at 2 p.m. at Seigler Funeral Home in Mulberry, with the Rev. Carl Wells officiating. Burial was at Willow Oak Cemetery, Willow Oak, Fla.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
13

Leann Booth

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Leann Irene Cook Booth, 54, died at 7 a.m. Wednesday, June 4, 2003, of breast cancer.

Mrs. Booth

She worked at Sealed Power in LaGrange for 22 years as key punch operator and at Motorola as a quality assurance auditor on semiconductors for eight years.

She moved to Howe after graduating from Central High School in Fort Wayne. She lived there for 12 years, then moved to Angola in 1983, then to Phoenix in 1992.

She was born in Fort Wayne July 14, 1948, to William and Helen (Teagarden) Cook.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Christa Booth of Phoenix and Amy and Byron Thomas of Jamaica, N.Y.; two grandsons, Cain and Kyeem Thomas; and ex-husband, Print Booth; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Diane and George Smith of Medina, Ohio, Michelle and Alan Siegel of Claremont, Calif., Melody and Lloyd Carney of LaGrange; a brother and sister-in-law, William and Madeline Cook of Fort Wayne; four nephews; and five nieces.

Memorial services will be Saturday, June 21, with calling from noon to 5 p.m. at the home of Lloyd and Melody Carney, 7280S C.R. 200E, Witmer Lake, Wolcottville.

Mary Ann Rodgers

ORLAND — Mary Ann Rodgers, 78, died Sunday, June 1, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

She was a retired social case worker for the Steuben County Welfare Department and also worked as a secretary in Chicago. She was a member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Angola and the Orland American Legion, for which she had served as president of the auxiliary. She was a member of Santa's Helpers and the Orland Lions Club, and served as a Cub Scout den mother in Orland. She enjoyed playing bingo and euchre.

She was born July 1, 1924, in Fort Wayne, to Grover William and Mary A. (Kettern) Lutz. On Feb. 24, 1945, in Fort Wayne, she married Harry (Gene) Rodgers, and he preceded her in death on Sept. 12, 2000. Four brothers are also deceased.

Surviving are a daughter, Jean Sain of Angola; a son, John Rodgers of Orland; a sister, Doris Wisniewski of Fort Wayne; a brother, Philip Lutz of Helmer; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Orland American Legion Post No. 423. There will be no calling.

Memorials are to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 2680, North Canton OH 44720. Beams Funeral Home in Fremont is in charge of arrangements.

The following is being rerun to correct information from the funeral home.

Beverly Nichols

KENDALLVILLE — Beverly R. Nichols, 86, died at 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, 2003, in Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

She was a lifetime area resident. She was a homemaker and worked at Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville from 1985 to 1996. She was a charter member of Farmerettes Home Demonstration Club.

She was born in Noble County Aug. 19, 1916, to B. Harry and Glendis (Forker) Smith.

She married Elvert Harold Nichols Dec. 13, 1934, in Albion. He died Jan. 25, 1983.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Barbra and Alfred Ordway of Hamilton; a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Becky Nichols of Kendallville; three grandchildren and one spouse, Cindy Ordway, Dennis Ordway and Jon and Crystal Nichols; two great-grandchildren, Brandon and Kordell Nichols; and three sisters, Glyndon Wright of Kendallville, Joan Bryant of Wolcottville and Carole Halferty of South Milford.

Preceding her in death were three brothers, Lauren, Harold and Gale Smith; and two sisters, Thelma Svoboda and Arlene Longyear.

Services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. James Toole of Faith United Methodist Church in Kendallville officiating. Burial will be at Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 8 p.m. and Saturday one hour before services.

Memorials are to Child Evangelism Fellowship in Auburn or to the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 13 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Kimberly Kitchen

FORT WAYNE — Kimberly A. (Bender) Kitchen, 53, died Thursday, June 12, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a sales representative with Kohl's Department Store for 10 years and for L.S. Ayres for four years.

She was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are her companion, Jimmy Boyle; a son, Nicholas Kitchen IV of Leo-Cedarville; two daughters, Tamara Yoder of Ligonier, Danyelle Leiter of Leo-Cedarville; her mother, Leona Bender of Fort Wayne; a brother, Charles Bender II of Fort Wayne; and nine grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Charles Bender.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, 1320 E. Dupont Road. Burial will be at Highland Park Cemetery.

Calling will be Monday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Diabetes Association.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 14 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Sharon Honaker

LAGRANGE — Sharon Kaye Honaker, 61, LaGrange, died Thursday, June 12, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

Mrs. Honaker was born Sept. 26, 1941, in Wolcottville, to Kenneth and Naomi "Peggy" Hulett. Her former husband, Robert Honaker, preceded her in death on Sept. 16, 2000.

Mrs. Honaker

She was a registered nurse at LaGrange Hospital for 41 years. She lived all her life in the LaGrange and Wolcottville areas.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church of LaGrange, Sylvan Chapter, No. 251 Order of the Eastern Star of LaGrange, was past president of the Case Management Association, and was a former member of the Noble County Library Board and the LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Monica Elick of LaGrange and Trisha and Marc Lalancette of Wolcottville; five stepchildren, Randy and Ronnie Staggs of California, Roger Staggs of Florida and Becky Miley and Renee Kaiserling, both of California; three grandchildren, Charles Paul Miramonti III, Brianna Kaye Miramonti and Robert Jules Lalancette; and a sister, Shirley Harp of Wolcottville.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Richard "Dick" Hulett.

Services are at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with the Rev. Steve Ailes and the Rev. Stephen Flynn officiating. Calling is Monday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.

Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery, Wolcottville.

Memorials are to the LaGrange Community Hospital Employee Crisis Fund.

Joseph Sliger

GARRETT — Joseph D. Sliger, 76, died Friday, June 13, 2003, in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Sliger was a farmer and worked at Kraft Foods in Kendallville for 25 years, retiring in 1989. He was a member of Cedar Lake Church of the Brethren in rural Auburn.

He was born July 29, 1926, in Garrett to Rabie D. and Dora M. (Eldrich) Sliger.

He married Echo L. (Shanahan) Sliger on Sept. 5, 1947. She died Dec. 14, 1999.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Mark Sliger of Garrett and John and Teckla Sliger, also of Garrett; one daughter, Ruth Aschleman of Fort Wayne; and six grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, John Sliger; and one grandchild.

Services will be at 6 p.m. Monday in the Cedar Lake Church of the Brethren. The Rev. Donald Shankster will officiate. A private family burial service will take place in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

Calling is Monday from 4-6 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to Heifer Project International.

Feller Funeral Home of Waterloo is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

James Reed

CORUNNA — James LeRoy Reed, 58, died Friday, June 13, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Mr. Reed worked as a truck driver for Group Dekko in Kendallville. He was born July 17, 1943, in Fort Wayne.

He married Janice Henderson on Aug. 22, 1964, in Auburn. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, James Reed of Corunna; a sister and brother-in-law, Diana and Van McConnell of Swedesboro, N.J.; a sister-in-law, Karen Wieman of Angola; two nephews, Christopher McConnell and Joel Wieman; a niece, Vanessa Adams; three stepsisters, Joan McVoy of Fort Wayne, Diane Peterson of Fort Wayne and Linda DeBennatio of Florida; and two grandchildren, Roberta Reed and Skyler Reed.

He was preceded in death by his mother and stepfather, Helen (Keller) and Otto Freeman, and a son, Patrick Casey Reed.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with the Rev. Richard Pickard officiating. Burial will be in Fairfield Cemetery in rural Corunna.

Calling is Monday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the DeKalb County Council on Aging van fund.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
15

Walter Eckels had enthusiasm for life

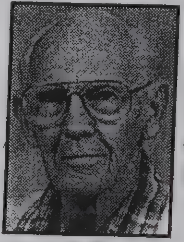
BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — "Did you hear about Walter?" asked Tammy Huff one night in choir practice. "He wants to go to The Young Messiah. I think that's cool."

Walter, in his 80s, wanted to see an updated, "hip" version of Handel's Messiah. A couple from church took him along to see it in Indianapolis. They said he was a "real hoot."

His optimism and enthusiasm for life belied the hardship of his early years. Walter C. Eckels was born to a farming couple in Jefferson Township in 1910. As a youngster, his family was split up after first his father, then his grandfather, died, and he ended up in an orphan's home.

It was there Walter first heard about God. In a journal, he wrote about "Mother," the good-hearted lady who first took him to church, and gave him the book, "In His Steps." He wrote, "She never did get the cook's job, because she would rather take care of us boys."


Mr. Eckels

As a young man, he began working as a custodian at Wayne Center School, north of Kendallville. "He loved plants," said former Wayne Center student turned teacher, Annabel Rogers. "In one room he had plants all along the windows," she said. Walter also learned to crochet and knit, and enjoyed that hobby, as well, said Rogers.

Walter met Mary Evelyn Cuney when the two worked at General Electric in Fort Wayne. She shared his love for God and the church, and the couple were married July 22, 1944, and later had a baby girl. Walter turned his love of flowers into an occupation. Besides working at other jobs, he and Evelyn operated a thriving florist shop in Avilla for about 25 years.

The Eckels became friends with the Klinger family of rural Avilla. The families had several things in common. Both men were named Walter and both had daughters named Carolyn. They all loved gospel music. "They (the Eckels) did the flowers for my wedding," said Carolyn (Klinger) Parker.

By the time Evelyn died in 1974, Walter had located his sisters. At one point, he moved to Horseshoe Bend, Ark., to be near one of them.

Walter thought he' probably pass away soon afte his wife, so, according t funeral director Greg Childs Walter had his funeral arrangements made, but lo, an behold, he lived nearly 3 more years — and he wa alive. His sharp eyes twinkle enthusiastically abou everything. He returned t Indiana, and enjoyed going to the Nazarene Church and special events — even in large arenas.

Before Walter passed away Tuesday in Kokomo at the age of 92, he had touched the lives of many, including several troubled boys he wrote to behind bars.

His well-worn Bible was marked at one of his favorite passages in Philippians; "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me,"

THE NEWS SUN
MAJUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
15

Hanselman was dedicated friend, husband

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ANGOLA — Keith Hanselman's wife, Barbara, remembers her husband as a man of his word.

"He was one of the most honorable men I've ever met," she said. "If he made you a promise, he stuck to it, no matter what."

Keith Lewis Hanselman, 60, died Sunday, June 1, at St. Joseph Hospital, Fort Wayne. He was born in Garrett on May 28, 1943.

He and Barbara had just celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. They were married in Minneapolis on May 26, 1968.

Carl Mozena was a good friend of Mr. Hanselman's. The two belonged to the Pokagon Longrifles Club.

"He and I used to sit and talk all the time," Carl said. "We were friends for probably seven or eight years. And for no longer than we knew each other, it was kind of scary ... we could answer each other's questions before they were even asked."

Mr. Hanselman

Carl said Mr. Hanselman often allowed his home to be used for Pokagon Longrifles events.

"He would always open his place up for us," he said. "He went out of his way to help anybody any time he could."

Barbara agreed.

"He'd do something nice for someone, and when they asked him how they could repay him, he'd say, 'pass it on to the next person.' He loved people and was a good friend."

Mr. Hanselman was an orchardist by trade. He owned and operated the Gageview Orchard in Angola for the past 34 years.

"He truly loved the orchard," Barbara said. "He was out every day on his tractor. He especially liked it when the mulberries came out ... he'd sit out on the tractor all day eating mulberries."

Although the Hanselmans never had any offspring of their own, their lives were nonetheless filled with children.

"A lot of the people who worked for us were 13, 14, 15 when they started," she said. "We've raised, or helped to raise, a lot of children."

Barbara said many of those children turned out to pay tribute to her husband after his death.

"When you have that many people who loved someone; when you have people who've rented from you for 28 years who come to pay their respects, that really says something," she said.

Mr. Hanselman was also a rural mail carrier in Angola from 1974 to 1983.

He was graduated from Oak Park High School in Oak Park, Ill., in 1961. He attended Yankton College in Yankton, S.D., from 1961-65.

"We met in college, in theater classes," Barbara remembered.

He was a veteran of the Vietnam War.

He was active in Angola community theater for several years, and was a member of the SPEBSQSA Barbershop Singers and the Sons of the American Revolution. He belonged to the Steuben County Farm Bureau and was a board member of the Steuben Lakes Regional District and the Indiana Society of Chicago.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
15

Mary Franks

KENDALLVILLE — Mary Lou Franks, 75, died Saturday, June 14, 2003, at the Hickory Creek Nursing Home in Kendallville.

Mrs. Franks

She was a member of the First Christian Church of Kendallville and attended South Side High School in Fort Wayne. She sang on WOWO radio for nine years from 1931-1941 as Ambrose Haley and Little Mary Lou, where Bob Sievers was the announcer. She was going to Hollywood to audition for a Shirley Temple part, but was short of funds to make the trip.

She was born on Oct. 26, 1927, in Little Rock, Ark., to Ambrose and Vallie (Birge) Haley.

She first married John Robert Gaines in 1948. She then married Marion Franks on Oct. 2, 1971, in Wawaka. They both survive in Kendallville.

Also surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Steven Gaines of Indianapolis, and Mark and Judy Gaines of Kendallville; a stepson and his wife, Greg and Devona Franks of Albion; a stepdaughter and her husband, Vicki and Timothy Clouse of Winter Haven, Fla.; two grandsons, Michael Gains and Damon Gaines — both of Indianapolis; a step grandson, Brian Clouse of Orlando, Fla.; a step granddaughter, Michelle Hoveland of Kanawa, Iowa; a step great-granddaughter, Mya Hoveland of Kanawa, Iowa; and two sisters, Dorothy Leffers of Delphos, Ohio, and Norma Grabner of Fort Wayne.

Calling will be held Monday from 3-7 p.m. at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home with the Rev. Thomas Clothier officiating.

Burial will be at the Cosperville Cemetery in Wawaka following services.

Memorials are to The American Lung Association or the Arthritis foundation.

Condolences at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Ruth Musser

AUBURN — Ruth D. (Barnhart) Musser, 91, died Thursday, June 12, 2003, at The Towne House Health Center in Fort Wayne.

Born in DeKalb County, she was a homemaker and a 1930 graduate of McIntosh High School in Auburn.

Mrs. Musser

She was a member of the Entre Nous Club and was pianist and organist at the First Church of God and Indian Village Church of God for 65 years. She worked as a switchboard operator at DeKalb Memorial Hospital, retiring in 1975, and was a lifetime member of Indian Village Church of God.

She is survived by two sons, Kent A. Musser of Fort Wayne and William N. Musser of Michigan; a daughter, Sandra S. Bendezv of Angola; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph J. Musser, her parents; a daughter, Beth Musser, who died in 2001; three brothers, Keith E., David A. and Leon L. Barnhart; and two sisters, Grace Pommert and Doris See.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Indian Village Church of God, Erie Pass and Superior Drive, Auburn, with calling from 10-11 a.m.

Additional calling will be Monday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. at McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home, 502 N. Main St., Auburn.

Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery of Auburn.

Memorials are to the Indian Village Church of God or the Heart Fund.

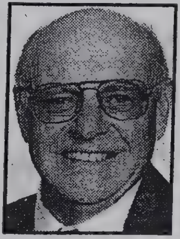
THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 15 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Paul Church

FREMONT — Paul Delson Church, 75, of Fremont, died Friday, June 13, 2003, at home.

Mr. Church retired in 1982 after 33 years at Dana Weatherhead in Angola. He also retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 1989 after 20 years of service.

He was an active member of the Fairview Missionary Church. He served four years in the U.S. Coast Guard during the Korean War.


Mr. Church

He enjoyed his family, farming and music.

He was born Sept. 21, 1927, to Benjamin Franklin and Eva Fern (Michael) Church in Montgomery, Mich. They preceded him in death.

He married Mavis (Schaeffer) Church on May 26, 1953, in Fremont. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Merrilee and James Runyon of Wheaton, Ill., Kathlene and Tim Groosbeck of Angola; five sons and four daughters-in-law, Stanley and Cathy Church of Zionsville, Stephen and JoDeane Church of Angola, Kurt and Debra Church of Andrews, Maurice and Cynthia Church of Pleasant Lake, and Mark Church of Fremont; 17 grandchildren; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Ruby and Carl Beckman of Grand Rapids, Mich., Opal Adams of Montgomery, Mich., and Pearl and Larry Miner of Montgomery, Mich.; and three brothers and two sisters-in-law, Dean and Becky Church of Detroit, Ralph and Evelyn Church and Glen Church — all of Coldwater, Mich.

Besides his parents he was preceded in death by a brother, Jacob Church.

Calling is 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Monday at Fairview Missionary Church in Angola and two hours prior to the service.

Services are at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the church with the Rev. Norman Fuller, the Rev. Donald Rashley and Pastor Jay Nickless officiating.

Burial will be in the Mundy Cemetery in Branch County, Mich.

Memorials are to Youth for Christ of Northeast Indiana and Branch County Michigan.

Sharon Honaker

LaGRANGE — Sharon Kaye Honaker, 61, of LaGrange, died Thursday, June 12, 2003, at the LaGrange Community Hospital.

A lifelong resident of the LaGrange and Wolcottville area, she was a registered nurse at the LaGrange Hospital for 41 years.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church in LaGrange, Sylvan Chapter 251 OES of LaGrange, past president of Case Management Association, former member of Noble County literary board and former board member of LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce.

She was born Sept. 26, 1941, in Wolcottville to Kenneth and Naomi "Peggy" (Elsner) Hulett. They preceded her in death.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Monica Elick of LaGrange, and Marc and Trisha Lalancette of Wolcottville; five stepchildren, Randy and Ronnie Staggs of Calif., Roger Staggs of Fla. and Becky Miley and Renee Kajerling of Calif.; three grandchildren, Charles Paul Miramonti III, Brianna Kaye Miramonti and Robert Jules Lalancette; and one sister, Shirley Harp of Wolcottville.

A former husband, Robert Honaker, preceded her in death on Sept. 16, 2000. Richard "Dick" Hulett, her brother, also preceded her in death.

Calling is 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Monday at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange.

Services are Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the funeral home with the Rev. Steve Ailes and the Rev. Stephen Flynn officiating.

Burial will be at the Woodland Cemetery.

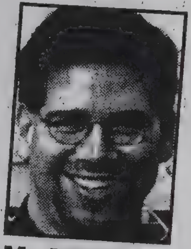
Memorials to LaGrange Community Hospital Employee Crisis Fund.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
16

Jonathan McCord

WOODBURN — Jonathan David McCord, 23, died Saturday, June 14, 2003, at U.S. 24 and S.R. 101.

Mr. McCord had served as art director and webmaster for Encore Music in Woodburn for more than a year.



Mr. McCord

He graduated from DeKalb High School in 1998 and attended the University of Saint Francis for two years. He was a member of Vineyard Church in Fort Wayne and Youth for Christ in Auburn.

He was born Nov. 30, 1979, in Fort Wayne to Geoffrey and Janice McCord. They survive in Fort Wayne.

Also surviving are three brothers and a sister-in-law, Geoffrey A. and Abby McCord of Avilla, James M. McCord of Fort Wayne and Jason A. McCord of Norristown, Pa.; a sister, Jennifer Smithers of Norristown; his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James Gardiner of Hudson, Mich.; and his paternal grandfather, Kyle W. McCord of Norristown.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday in Calvary Chapel on Old Maysville Road, Fort Wayne. Burial will be in the IOOF Cemetery at New Haven.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Chapel, 1140 Lake Ave., Fort Wayne.

Memorials are to the Jonathan David McCord Memorial Fund in care of the Vineyard Church, Fort Wayne.

Roberta Kuhn

ALBION — Roberta M. Kuhn, 80, died at 10:05 p.m. Saturday, June 14, 2003, at Kendallville Manor Healthcare.

She was a lifetime area resident and housewife. She enjoyed gardening and crocheting.

She was born in Noble County June 12, 1923, to Harry and Mayrietta (Browand) Marshall.

She married Harold D. Kuhn in Fort Wayne. He died in 1990.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Richard and June Kuhn of Kendallville; a daughter, Janice Kuhn of Albion; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Harry and Pat Marshall of Kendallville and Lloyd and Gennie Marshall of Kimmell; and a sister, Helen Trittipo of Texas.

Preceding her in death were three brothers, Harold, George and Robert Marshall.

Services will be Thursday at 10:30 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with the Rev. Doug Keenan officiating. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Victor Phillips

THREE RIVERS, Mich. — Victor Earl Phillips, 86, formerly of Howe, died at 6 a.m. Saturday, June 14, 2003, at Heartland Health Center, Three Rivers.

He was a LaGrange County farmer and worked for Sealed Power Co. in LaGrange until he retired in 1984. He was also a school bus driver for several years.

He was born in LaGrange County May 1, 1917, to Earl and Mabel (Davidson) Phillips.

He married Edna Brown. She died in 1986.

Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Charles and Wanda Phillips of Angola and Don and Joyce Phillips of Howe; two stepdaughters, Joan Knachel and Norma Puglia, both of Three Rivers; a sister, Virginia Felton of Wakarusa; nine grandchildren; and four stepgrandchildren.

Preceding him in death were a grandson, Mark Phillips; and two great-grandchildren, Cory and Cole Phillips.

Services will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe. Burial will be at Ontario Cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Heart Fund or the American Lung Association.

Violet Albert

KENDALLVILLE — Violet M. Albert, 89, died at 9:55 p.m. at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home. Services are pending at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 16 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Herman DeLucenay

ASHLEY — Herman J. DeLucenay, 82, died Sunday, June 15, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr. DeLucenay owned and operated the DeLucenay Brothers Sanitation Service for 18 years, retiring in 1982. He served in the U.S. Marines during World War II. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in rural Waterloo, the Knights of Columbus and the Waterloo post of Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He was born July 24, 1920, in Ashley to Eugene N. and Margaret C. (Miller) DeLucenay.

He married Wanda R. Lybarger on Aug. 16, 1947, in Dickson, Ill. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Paul David DeLucenay of Tullahoma, Tenn., and John Adam DeLucenay of Ashley; two daughters, Christian Ann Freeman of Avilla and Valerie Lynn Lankenau of Fort Wayne; four brothers, Harold of Spokane, Wash., Earl of Ashley, Edward of New Haven and Eugene of Pleasant Lake; 13 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Gregory Lee DeLucenay; one brother, Richard; and one sister, Helen Goebel.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday in St. Michael's Catholic Church with Father David Carkenord officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo.

Memorials are to Masses or a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Services Held

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Margaret Elaine O. Reynolds** were held Friday at 1 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home, with Chaplain Karen Kosberg officiating. Burial was at Orange Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Steven Holsinger, Bill Wagner, Marvin Hart, Ernie Kaiser, Dan Hart and Doug Hart.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
17

Violet Albert

KENDALLVILLE — Violet M. Albert, 89, died at 9:55 p.m. Sunday, June 15, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home after a two-year illness. She had resided there for five years.

She was a nurse's aide at Irene Byron Hospital and the old Lutheran Home. She was a member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Hudson.

She was born in Fort Wayne May 20, 1914, to Chester and Ruth (Smith) McKee.

She married Darris Albert in 1965 in Paulding, Ohio. He died in 1971.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Ruth and Roger Kaiser of Wolcottville; a son, Gary Wise of Phoenix; 10 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Gloria Horton of Fort Wayne.

Preceding her in death were a son, David; and a sister, Opal Houser.

Services will be Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Pastor Roger Olson, chaplain of Shepherd of the Hill nursing home, officiating. Burial will be at the South Milford Cemetery.

Calling will be Wednesday beginning at noon at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Shepherd of the Hill.

Dorthea Bixler

CHURUBUSCO — Dorthea L. Bixler, 88, died at 5:55 a.m. Monday, June 16, 2003, at Betz Nursing Home in Auburn following a lengthy illness.

She and her husband had farmed in the Churubusco area since 1949. In 1975 they moved into their home in Churubusco. She was a homemaker and attended Churubusco United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Bixler

Mrs. Bixler was born in Taylorville, Ill., March 7, 1915, to Justin E. and Laura (Ickes) Wenner.

She married Leo Henry Bixler Nov. 11, 1938. He survives.

Also surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Lorraine and Neal Zolman of Garrett; two granddaughters and their husbands, Della and Tony Thompson of Wolcottville and Doreen and Chet Brown of Ashley; five great-grandchildren, Gabrielle, Matea and Ross Thompson and Victoria and Elizabeth Brown; and a sister, Clar Elma Brodrick of Cincinnati.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. E. Vaughn Powell, pastor emeritus of Churubusco United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be at Riverview Cemetery in Allen County.

Calling will be today from 4 to 6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Churubusco United Methodist Church.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Maurice Geary

FORT WAYNE — Maurice "Mike" Geary, 78, died Monday, June 16, 2003, at Lutheran Home.

He retired in 1986 as an electrician from IBEW Local 305, with 35 years of service. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Air Force in the South Pacific.

He was born in Fort Wayne Oct. 7, 1924, in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife of 53 years, Rita W. Geary; two sons and daughters-in-law, Michael C. and Beverly Geary of Fort Wayne and Timothy J. and Rebecca Geary of LaOtto; four grandchildren, Jason, Amanda, Anthony and Brandon Geary; two sisters, Margaret Soo of New Carlisle and Doleen Bergstrom of Medford, Ore.

Services will be Friday at 1 p.m. at Lutheran Home Chapel, 6701 S. Anthony Blvd. Burial will be at Concordia Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, 6131 St. Joe Road, and one hour before services.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health & Hospice.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
17

Services Held

AVILLA — Services for **Evelyn T. Freeman** were held Monday at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, with Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Burial was at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Todd Carteaux, John Houlihan, Greg Freeman, Ross Freeman, Aaron Fisher and Nathan Rhodes.

Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Ralph Hasselman** were held Friday at 11 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church, with the Revs. Paul Griebel and Kent Hunter officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Phillip Stephan, Jonathan Hunter, Christopher Fitch, Brent Fitch, Joe Ackerman and David Bruce.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Beverly R. Nichols** were held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. James Toole officiating. Burial was at Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Robert Lash, Jeff McAllister, Kevin Clouse, John Dixon, Keith Ordway and LeRoy Ordway.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 18 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Caroline Jordan

AVILLA — Caroline Monroe Jordan, 83, died at 6:30 a.m. Saturday, June 14, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

She lived in Fort Wayne most of her life. She graduated from Most Precious Blood Elementary and Commercial High School. She retired in 1970 from Insurance and Risk Management, having been with the company since its beginning. She was a member of the Tawasi Chapter of the Retired Secretaries Association and the Retired Police Officers Wives Association. She had volunteered at St. Joseph Hospital.

She was born in Fort Wayne July 16, 1919, to John and Mary (Hageman) Monroe.

She married Elgin Jordan in 1938 and celebrated 50 years together in 1988. He was a retired police officer when he died in 1988.

Surviving are two sons, Frederick Jordan of Huntertown and Thomas Jordan of Dallas, Texas; seven grandchildren, Mary Barnes of Dallas, David Jordan of Indianapolis, Catherine Acuna of Cedar Hill, Texas, Daniel Jordan of Huntertown, Suzanne Peterson of Shelbyville, Ky., Thomas Jordan of Muncie and Cynthia Jordan of McHenry, Md.

Also preceding her in death were three sisters, Christle Sanders, Cleo Nicole and Ruth VanDiver.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. Burial will be at Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 3 to 8 p.m. at C.M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home, Fort Wayne, with rosary at 7:30 p.m. and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to Most Precious Blood Window Fund or the Sunday television Mass.

Roberta McNear

ALBION — Roberta M. McNear, 45, died Sunday, June 15, 2003, following an extended illness.

She was employed by the Frick Farm swine operation in Wawaka. She was a member of Albion Wesleyan Church. She was a graduate of Penn State University and earned a master's degree at Ohio State University.

She was born in New Brighton, Pa., Aug. 13, 1957, to Charles and Helen (Gossard) McNear of Monaca, Pa.

Surviving with her parents are her grandmother, Annabelle Gossard of Brighton Township; a foster aunt, Marg Zediker of Mansfield, Ohio; an aunt, Wanda Gossard of Rochester; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Connie and Rod Gasche of Carbelle, Fla., and Mary and Matt Petrella of Monaca; five nieces and nephews; and her loving church family who took care of her during her last illness.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Huntsman Rochester Funeral Home, Rochester, Pa., with the Rev. Karl Kesselring, pastor of Waterford Nazarene Church, officiating. Burial will be at Sylvania Hills Memorial Park.

Calling will be Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorial services will be at Albion Wesleyan Church at a later date.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

Orr Funeral Home is in charge of local arrangements.

Eula Bowman

FORT WAYNE — Eula "Fern" Bowman, 80, died Monday, June 16, 2003, at Heritage Park Health Care Center.

She was a billing clerk with Lincoln Life Insurance Co. for 27 years, retiring in 1982.

She was born in Jordan, Minn.

Surviving are three sons, Tim L. Schoenherr of Albion, and Jack Eugene Schoenherr and Jerry F. Schoenherr, both of Fort Wayne; five grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Elmer Asbell, who died in 1966.

Services will be Thursday at 1 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home, 1140 Lake Ave. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens.

Calling will be today from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Mary Lou Franks** were Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home with the Rev. Tom Clothier and Pastor Bob Farmer officiating. Burial was at Cosperville Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Mark Gaines, Timothy Clouse, Greg Franks, Michael Gaines, Damon Gaines and Brian Clouse.

ALBION NEW ERA
2003
JUNE
18

Margaret Reynolds

MIDDLEBURY – Margaret Elaine Ollie Ruble Reynolds, 70, died Tuesday, June 10, 2003, at the home of her daughter, Cindy Wagner, with whom she resided. She had been ill since May 1.

She was a homemaker and a member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Rome City and Moose Lodge in Kendallville. She was a former area resident and had returned to the area from Fort Pierce, FL.

She was born in Basin, WY, January 19, 1933, to Alex and Thelma (Phillips) Kaiser.

She first married Farold Dalton Ruble in January 1948. He died January 6, 1962. She then married Hugh B. Reynolds, Jr. December 23, 1987. He died January 27, 2000.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Barry D. and Mona Ruble of Avilla; two daughters and a son-in-law, Darlene Holsinger of Fort Pierce, FL, and Cindy and William A. Wagner of Middlebury; two brothers, Ernie Kaiser of Phoenix and Marvin Hart of Kendallville; a grandson, Steven Holsinger of Hendersonville, NC; four nieces; and two nephews.

Preceding her in death were a son, Kevin Daryl Ruble; and two grandchildren, Brian Keith Holsinger and Debra Sue Holsinger.

Services were held Friday, June 13, 2003, at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville. Burial was in Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Memorials are to Parkview Hospice, LaGrange Branch, or to the American Diabetes Association.

Herman DeLucenay

ASHLEY – Herman J. DeLucenay, 82, died Sunday, June 15, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr. DeLucenay owned and operated the DeLucenay Brothers Sanitation Service for 18 years, retiring in 1982. He served in the U.S. Marines during World Way II. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in rural Waterloo, the Knights of Columbus and the Waterloo post of Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He was born July 24, 1920, in Ashley to Eugene N. and Margaret C. (Miller) DeLucenay.

He married Wanda R. Lybarger on August 16, 1947, in Dickson, IL. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Paul David DeLucenay of Tullahoma, TN, and John Adam DeLucenay of Ashley; two daughters, Christian Ann Freeman of Avilla and Valerie Lynn Lankenau of Fort Wayne; four brothers, Harold of Spokane, WA, Earl of Ashley, Edward of New Haven and Eugene of Pleasant Lake; 13 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Gregory Lee DeLucenay; one brother, Richard; and one sister, Helen Goebel.

Services were held Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at St. Michael's Catholic Church with Father David Carkenord officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Memorials are to Masses or a charity of the donor's choice.

Mary Franks

KENDALLVILLE – Mary Lou Franks, 75, died Saturday, June 14, 2003, at the Hickory Creek Nursing Home in Kendallville.

She was a member of the First Christian Church of Kendallville and attended South Side High School in Fort Wayne. She sang on WOWO radio for nine years from 1931-1941 as Ambrose Haley and Little Mary Lou, where Bob Sievers was the announcer. She was going to Hollywood to audition for a Shirley Temple part, but was short of funds to make the trip.

She was born on October 26, 1927, in Little Rock, AR, to Ambrose and Vallie (Birge) Haley.

She first married John Robert Gaines in 1948. She then married Marion Franks on October 2, 1971, in Wawaka. They both survive in Kendallville.

Also surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Steven Gaines of Indianapolis, and Mark and Judy Gaines of Kendallville; a stepson and his wife, Greg and Devona Franks of Albion; a stepdaughter and her husband, Vicki and Timothy Clouse of Winter Haven, Fl; two grandsons, Michael Gaines and Damon Gaines, both of Indianapolis; a step grandson, Brian Clouse of Orlando, FL; a step granddaughter, Michelle Hoveland of Kanawa, Iowa; a step great-granddaughter, Mya Hoveland of Kanawa, Iowa; and two sisters, Dorothy Leffers of Delphos, Ohio, and Norma Grabner of Fort Wayne.

Services were held Tuesday, June 17, 2003, at Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Thomas Clothier officiating. Burial was in the Cosperville Cemetery in Wawaka.

Memorials are to The American Lung Association or the Arthritis Foundation.

ALBION NEW ERA
JUNE 18 2003

Roberta McNear

ALBION – Roberta M. McNear, 45, of Albion, went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, June 15, 2003, following an extended illness.

Born August 13, 1957, in New Brighton, PA, she was the daughter of Charles and Helen (Gossard) McNear, of Monaca, PA. She was employed by the Frick Farm swine operation in Wawaka, IN. She was a member of the Albion Wesleyan Church, a graduate of Penn State University and received her Master's degree from Ohio State University.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by her grandmother, Annabelle Gossard, Brighton Twp; a foster aunt, Marg Zediker, Mansfield, OH; a loving aunt, Wanda Gossard, Rochester; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Connie and Rod Gasche, Carabelle, FL and Mary and Matt Petrella, Monaca; five special nieces and nephews; and her loving church family of Albion Wesleyan Church who took care of her during her last illness.

Friends will be received Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Huntsman Rochester Funeral Home, 502 Adams St., Rochester, PA. The service will be conducted Saturday, June 21, 2003, at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home, with the Rev. Karl Kesselring, pastor of the Waterford Nazarene Church officiating. Interment will follow in Sylvania Hills Memorial Park. A memorial service to celebrate Roberta's life will be held at the Albion Wesleyan Church at a later date.

For those who wish, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Jonathan McCord

WOODBURN – Jonathan David McCord, 23, died Saturday, June 14, 2003, at U.S. 24 and S.R. 101.

Mr. McCord had served as art director and webmaster for Encore Music in Woodburn for more than a year.

He graduated from DeKalb High School in 1998 and attended the University of Saint Francis for two years. He was a member of Vineyard Church in Fort Wayne and Youth for Christ in Auburn.

He was born November 30, 1979, in Fort Wayne to Geoffrey and Janice McCord. They survive in Fort Wayne.

Also surviving are three brothers and a sister-in-law, Geoffrey A. and Abby McCord of Avilla, James M. McCord of Fort Wayne, and Jason A. McCord of Norristown, PA; a sister, Jennifer Smithers of Norristown; his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. James Gardiner of Hudson, MI; and his paternal grandfather, Kyle W. McCord of Norristown.

Services were held Wednesday, June, 18, 2003, at Calvary Chapel in Fort Wayne. Burial was in the IOOF Cemetery at New Haven.

Memorials are to the Jonathan David McCord Memorial Fund in care of the Vineyard Church, Fort Wayne.

Robert Miller

FORT WAYNE – Robert A. Miller, 95, died Thursday, June 5, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

He was retired from Foster Park Golf Course after 26 years as a groundskeeper. He had also worked at the Knitting Mill for 27 years. He was a World War II Navy veteran.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are one brother, Ervin "Bud" Miller of Fort Wayne; and one sister, Dorothy Smith of Albion.

Preceding him in death were his wife, Florence, who died in 1935; his three children, Marilyn, Barbara and Ralph Miller; three sisters; and one brother.

Services were held Thursday, June 12, 2003, at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Home for Funerals in Fort Wayne.

Roberta Kuhn

ALBION – Roberta M. Kuhn, 80, died Saturday, June 14, 2003, at Kendallville Manor Healthcare.

She was a lifetime area resident and housewife. She enjoyed gardening and crocheting.

She was born in Noble County June 12, 1923, to Harry and Mayrietta (Browand) Marshall.

She married Harold D. Kuhn in Fort Wayne. He died in 1990.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Richard and June Kuhn of Kendallville; a daughter, Janice Kuhn of Albion; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Harry and Pat Marshall of Kendallville and Lloyd and Gennie Marshall of Kimmell; and a sister, Helen Trittipo of Texas.

Preceding her in death were three brothers, Harold, George, and Robert Marshall.

Services will be held Thursday, June 19, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier with the Rev. Doug Keenan officiating. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. a the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 19 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Raymond Rhodehamel

CHURUBUSCO — Raymond A. Rhodehamel, 59, was pronounced dead at 11:17 p.m. Wednesday, June 18, 2003, in the emergency room at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, after an apparent heart attack at his home.

He was superintendent of the wastewater plant for the town of Churubusco.

Among surviving relatives is his wife, Cathy.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Marjorie Scroggs

FORT WAYNE — Marjorie A. Scroggs, 67, died Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

She was retired as registration clerk in the emergency room at Parkview. She was a member of Calvary Temple Worship Center.

She was born in Avilla June 28, 1935.

Surviving are her husband, Fred P. Scroggs; five sons, Steve Scroggs of Mattoon, Ill., Jim Scroggs of Jasper, Tenn., Mark Scroggs of Warner Robins, Ga., Jon Scroggs of Warsaw and Tim Scroggs of Columbia City; two sisters, Lucile Barnhart of Churubusco and Catherine Clingenpeel of LaOtto; and 11 grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were four sisters and six brothers.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Calvary Temple Worship Center, 1400 W. Washington Center Road. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery, Huntertown.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, 6131 St. Joe Road, and one hour before services at the church.

JoAnn Jetmore

ANGOLA — JoAnn Jetmore, a former Ashley resident for 41 years, died Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Jetmore was born July 15, 1934, in Coldwater, Mich., to Orville and Virginia (Erts) Otis.

She was a homemaker and mother.

She was a member of the Ashley United Methodist Church. She was an avid reader and enjoyed the lakes and camping.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Cindy Jetmore of Auburn; two daughters and sons-in-law, Jeanne and Don Horman of Pleasant Lake and Julie and Scott Such of King George, Va.; two brothers, Orville Otis of Royersford, Pa., and Walter Otis of Coldwater; two sisters, Jeanne Baranouski of Quincy, Mich., and Marilyn Brunner of Athens, Mich.; her former husband, Herman Jetmore of Hudson; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and her extended Elliott Manor family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a granddaughter, Jennifer Snyder, in 1977.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with Pastor Jim Hulbert officiating. Calling is one hour before services.

Memorials are to donor's choice.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Violet M. Albert** were Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with Chaplain Roger Olson officiating. Burial was at South Milford Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Mike Kaiser, Chris Pranger, Travis Wise, Doug Wise, Ron Wise and Chad Ensley.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
20

Raymond Rhodehamel

CHURUBUSCO — Raymond A. Rhodehamel, 59, died at 11:17 p.m. Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, after an apparent heart attack at his home.

He had owned and operated RESCO professional waste water treatment consultants and was superintendent of the wastewater plant for the town of Churubusco the last two years. He was employed at the former PCS in LaOtto and was a self-employed diesel mechanic.

Mr. Rhodehamel

He moved from New Castle to Portland as a youth and graduated from Portland High School in 1962 and lived in Churubusco the past 38 years. He was a member of the Churubusco Volunteer Fire Department for 27 years and served as chief twice. He also served as a reserve police officer in Churubusco.

He was a member of the Churubusco United Methodist Church, Churubusco Lodge 515 F&AM, Churubusco Order of the Eastern Star 136, Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Wayne, Mizpah Shrine in Fort Wane and other Masonic bodies.

He was born in New Castle May 29, 1944, to Leo and Lois (French) Rhodehamel.

He married Catherine "Cathy" L. Williams May 21, 1988, in Portland. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Rex A. and Jennifer Rhodehamel of Fort Wayne; a stepson, Wade A. Bogard of Churubusco; three stepdaughters, Deborah Wynn of Burlington, Wash., Rachele and her husband Rodney Briggs of Oak Island, N.C. and Catherine Danielle Bogard of Queens, N.Y.; a brother, Clark "Moe" and Julie Rhodehamel of Portland; and four grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were two brothers, Gene and Chuck; and a sister, Virginia Koon.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m, at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs, of Churbusco United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in Green Park Cemetery, Portland.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home with Indiana Volunteer Fireman's Association memorial service at 7 p.m. and Churubusco Masonic Lodge memorial service at 7:45 p.m.

Memorials are to Churubusco Volunteer Fire Department or the American Heart Association.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

John Cotterman

HAMILTON — John W. Cotterman, 81, died Tuesday, June 17, 2003, at Northern Lakes Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Angola, where he had been a patient since June 12.

He was born May 13, 1922, in Bryan, Ohio, to William and Carrie (Reagle) Cotterman. On January 1, 1949, he married Gwendolyn Bishoff in St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Montpelier, Ohio. She survives.

Mr. Cotterman lived most of his life in Bryan, retiring to Hamilton Lake. He was a retired farmer and was employed for 21 years as a salesman for John Melton Ford and Tom Sheridan Ford.

He was a member of the Wesley United Methodist Church in Bryan, and was a life members of the Loyal Order of the Moose No. 1064 in Bryan. He served on the Hamilton Lake Association for several years.

Also surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Mary and John Hageman of Kendallville and Kathy and Ben Pierce and Nancy Cotterman, all of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; a son and daughter-in-law, John David and Nancy Cotterman of Columbus, Ohio; five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Mildred Hepker, and two brothers, Harold and Raymond Cotterman.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Wesley United Methodist Church, Bryan, with the Rev. Eric Stoops of the Hamilton United Methodist Church officiating. Calling will be at the church from 1 to 2 p.m.

Private burial will be in Farmer Cemetery.

Memorials are to the John Cotterman Family Fund of the Bryan Area Foundation.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
20

Molleigh McClure

KENDALLVILLE — Molleigh K. McClure, 5 months, died Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at Parkview Memorial Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Molleigh McClure

Surviving are her parents, Jason J. McClure and Shannon Mangan, both of Kendallville; a half-sister, Madison McClure of Kendallville; grandparents, Michael Mangan of Clearwater, Fla., Larraine Sanders of Springfield, Ohio, Cindy Howard of Pensacola, Fla. and Jeff McClure of Garrett; great-grandparents, Wayne and Carol Paschal of Fort Wayne, Janet Luce of Newville and Carolyn McClure of Angola; aunts, Meghan Mangan of Fort Wayne and Brittany Carnahan of Pensacola, Fla.; uncles, Adam McClure of Garrett, David Howard of Fort Wayne and Bill Howard of Fort Wayne.

Services will be at 3 p.m. today in Knauss Chapel at Trinity English Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne. Calling is one hour prior to services in the chapel lounge.

Memorials are to Trinity English Lutheran Church.

Arrangements were by Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Homes, Fort Wayne.

Helen Mosier

HOWE — Helen Maxine Mosier, 91, died at 9 p.m. Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at Life Care Center of LaGrange.

She retired from Carbon Coated in Sturgis, Mich., in 1946, after 17 years. She graduated from Sturgis High School in 1928. She was a member of the D.A.R. and Episcopal Church Women's Association.

She was born in Sturgis Aug. 8, 1911, to Edward and Grace B. (Slingerland) Smith.

She married Donald Mosier Jan. 2, 1939. He died in 1981.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Don W. and Jeannie Mosier of Ontario, Ind.; and one granddaughter, Jesse Ann Mosier.

Also preceding her in death was a brother, Albert Edward Smith.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at St. James Chapel, Howe. Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery.

Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
21

Anna Lough

LIGONIER — Anna J. Lough, 81, died Friday, June 20, 2003, at 12:45 p.m. at Goshen General Hospital.

She was born Dec. 14, 1921, in Dayton, Ohio, to Nathan C. and Mary P. (Kaehler) Sollenberger. She married John M. Lough on Nov. 29, 1946, in Dayton. He preceded her in death in 1973.

A resident of Ligonier for over 50 years, Mrs. Lough had been employed as a teachers assistant at Ligonier Elementary School. Prior to that, she worked for Kidd & Co. and Richard's Music.

She was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church and Ladies Sodality. She enjoyed playing bingo, reading and gardening. She especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Dixie Lough of Fort Wayne; two daughters and sons-in-law, Patricia and Dan Burnworth of Kimmell and Christine and Kermit Leamon of Goshen; one brother and sister-in-law, Thomas and Barb Sollenberger of Xenia, Ohio; one sister, Helen Kelly of Dayton; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were six brothers and one sister.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Ligonier.

Calling will be Sunday from 2-8 p.m. at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier, with Father Fernandes Babasino officiating.

Burial will be at Oak Park Cemetery in Ligonier.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Association or Goshen Hospital and Health Care Foundation.

Amos Eash

BRONSON, Mich. — Amos N. Eash, 79, died Friday, June 20, 2003, at Laurels of Coldwater in Coldwater, Mich.

Mr. Eash was born July 5, 1923, in LaGrange County to Noah T. and Catherine (Yoder) Eash. He married Evelyn Carney on Sept. 15, 1951, in LaGrange. She survives.

He was a farmer for 31 years before retiring to enjoy gardening, woodworking and dancing.

Surviving with his wife are one son and daughter-in-law, James and Lynnell Eash of Bronson, Mich.; three brothers, Chris Eash of LaGrange, John Eash of South English, Iowa, and Levi Eash of Emma; and two sisters, Saloma Eash of Emma and Mrs. Elmer (Katie Mae) Miller of LaGrange.

Preceding him in death were her parents, one sister, six half-sisters and four half-brothers.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Carney-Frost Funeral Home.

Calling will be from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Memorials are to the family or American Cancer Society.

Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 22 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Oscar Slusher

ASHLEY — Oscar G. Slusher, 50, died Thursday, June 19, 2003, at his home in Ashley.

Mr. Slusher was a truck driver for Kodak, attended Barker Chapel Church and enjoyed fishing, pool, motorcycles, computers and model cars.

Mr. Slusher

He was born Jan. 2, 1953, in Denver to Guy E. and Helen (Houser) Slusher. They preceded him in death.

He is survived by his companion, Mary Hale of Ashley; four daughters, Rachel McDonald of Hobart, Bobbie Slusher of Redondo Beach, Calif., Becky Slusher of Edon, Ohio, and Hope Thomas of Indiana; two sons, Jason Slusher of TriLakes and Josh Slusher; a brother, Ed Slusher of California; three grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and special friends Randy Batchelder, Jessica Batchelder and Trevor Batchelder.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Slusher.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier. Pastor Clair Hochstetler will officiate. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery in Ligonier.

Calling is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

Paul Church made memories with all seven of his children

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

FREMONT — Paul Church and his wife, Mavis, had seven children — Merrilee, Kathlene, Stanley, Stephen, Kurt, Maurice and Mark. And Mr. Church made it a priority to make special time for each one of them.

"I can remember sitting around the table doing my homework with him," said Stephen of his father. "There were a lot of us, but he found time to make memories for each kid."

Mr. Church, 75, of Fremont, died Friday, June 13, at home. He had been battling congestive heart failure for several years. Five years ago, he had experimental surgery.

"That allowed us to enjoy him for a little longer," Kathlene said.

Kathlene remembered her father as a "gentle, loving, caring man."

"He was the strong force behind the family," she said. "He always backed everyone up."

Stephen said being able to raise seven kids and working at the same time was one of the things he admired the most about his father.

"He spent a lot of time working, but at the same time, he was a real family man," he said. "He made sure all seven of us got a college education ... I'm still not sure how he did that."

Mr. Church and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary shortly before his death.

"He relied on Mom a lot," Kathlene said. "She was the more outgoing one, and I think he really admired her."

The Church children sang for many area churches and groups. Accompanied on the piano by their mother, they sang selections of patriotic and Christian songs.

"Dad would sing with us once in a while," Kathlene said. "We did a couple of songs he sang on."

Stephen also remembers those performances.

"We always had a big station wagon or a Suburban so we could all squeeze in and ride together in the same car," he said.

Mr. Church retired in 1982 after 33 years at Dana Weatherhead in Angola. He also retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 1989 after 20 years of service.

He was an active member of the Fairview Missionary Church.

"He was a very accepting man, and when it came time for us to get married, I think our spouses were glad to be marrying into such a kind family," Stephen said.

One of his greatest joys, Mavis said, was being a grandfather.

"He liked being Grandpa," she said. "He loved those babies as they came along."

Stephen said his father took great pride in his grandchildren.

"He knew when my girls were in the paper, even if it was only their names in the honor roll," he said.

Even when Mr. Church fell ill, he continued to make friends.

"We wound up making family friends out of his doctors and nurses," Stephen said. "They would all say, 'Wow, he is just a really nice guy.'"

Which is what Mavis would like people to remember about her husband.

"There were so many good things about him," she said. "Our 50 years together was a wonderful time."

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 22 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Franks began harmonizing at young age

BY JUDY MCDONALD
judym@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — Mary Lou was only about 4 or 5 when her parents recognized her rare singing ability. She could harmonize. Vallie and Ambrose Haley, in show business themselves, encouraged their daughter's talent.

Vallie was a dancer — a "flapper." Ambrose not only recorded several successful records, but his name was included, along with Hank Williams and other country stars, in Tex Ritter's hit song, "Hillbilly Heaven."

Back in the '30s, Ambrose Haley and Little Mary Lou were regulars on WOWO radio out of Fort Wayne. Because the family budget was too tight, Mary Lou missed an opportunity to audition for a part in a Shirley Temple movie. But the duo was well-known between Fort Wayne and Rome City. They entertained crowds in theaters, schools and at other events, including the dedication of the new Rome City bridge.

Mrs. Franks

According to her son, Mark Gaines, 44, by the time she married at about 21, Mary Lou had suspended formal show business. Mostly, she enjoyed singing for her children. Gaines remembers "Sentimental Journey" and other favorites. In the '60s, though, Mary Lou took up the drums and enjoyed jamming with a little band.

In the '80s Mary Lou worked in the soda fountain at the rear of Chronister's Drug Store in downtown Kendallville. According to pharmacist Rick Parrish, she was famous for her "Green River" and "Jolly Roger."

In the meantime, she had introduced her son to the guitar. "I picked up the baton," said Gaines. He started out with bluegrass and country rock, and today he plays bass with another hometown performer.

At first, his mother was a little hesitant about his getting into show business. She said all the traveling and performing as a child had been hard on her. Growing up, her family never knew where they'd be from week to week. But she encouraged her son's love of music.

Gaines' career began to take off. He plays bass in Todd Herendeen's Las Vegas-style, Elvis tribute band. Before long, the band was on stage with the Beach Boys and Elvis' own back-up singers, the Jordanaires.

"She was just very encouraging to me," said Gaines, and after a while, "She was all for it."

Mary Lou's pastor at First Christian Church, the Rev. Tom Clothier, gave her high marks, as well.

"She had a quick wit and tried to put everything into perspective," he said of her declining health.

"She was a pleasant patient, not troublesome, with a very good way of blessing people," said Clothier.

"She had tremendous trust in the Lord."

When Mary Lou died June 14 at the age of 75, she started singing again.

Funeral director helped found DeKalb EMS

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

BUTLER — "We are going to miss him."

With those words, Butler Mayor Larry Moore noted the passing Wednesday of J. Reynold Johnson, 74, former owner and operator of the H.E. Johnson & Son Funeral Home and Johnson Furniture Store in Butler.

Moore was joined by Rick Ring, director of ancillary services at DeKalb Memorial Hospital, in remembering Mr. Johnson in particular for his contributions to the establishment of the DeKalb Emergency Medical Service.

"His passing saddens me greatly," Ring said. "He was an exceptional human being who held Butler and DeKalb County close to his heart, doing what he could to promote better health in the community."

Mr. Johnson was instrumental in establishing the EMS, in the process giving up the ambulance service provided by his funeral home for 35 years. He became an emergency medical technician, serving 10 years with the EMS unit based at the Butler fire station, where Mayor Moore was fire chief and also an EMT.

Mr. Johnson

"He was sort of a quiet-type community supporter, staying out of the limelight," Moore said. "He didn't take a lot of credit for all that he did."

Ring called Mr. Johnson his "mentor" for all the help he provided when Ring was made EMS director at the age of 22.

"I was the second EMS director and one of the original EMS crew members," Ring said. "He really tried to help me."

Mayor Moore noted that Mr. Johnson was the third-generation owner of the family funeral home, and now fourth-generation Johnsons are continuing the business.

"Reynold grew up and lived here, and we are going to miss him," Moore said.

Jeff Turner, a member of the DeKalb County Community Foundation, said he crossed paths often with Mr. Johnson, professionally and in community organizations.

"He was a giant of a man who was very interested in his community and in supporting it in any way possible," Turner said.

Butler city attorney Gerald McNerney noted that when he first came to Butler 30 years ago, Mr. Johnson "was very kind to me. He was just a genuine nice guy, and his passing is a terrible loss to the community."

Mr. Johnson also served on the DeKalb County Eastern school board, the Butler Park Board and the DeKalb County Hospital Board. He was a 50-year member of the Forest Lodge 239 F & AM, belonged to Fort Wayne Scottish Rite and York Rite of Angola and was a 50-year member of the Indiana Funeral Directors Association.

Services were Saturday in Butler.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE . 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
22

Myrtle Allen

AVILLA — Myrtle Irene Allen, 94, died Friday, June 20, 2003, at 4:45 p.m. at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla, where she had lived for one month.

Mrs. Allen was a homemaker and a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Scottish Cultural Society.

She was born Sept. 24, 1908, in Garrett to Charles W. and Agnes J. (Howard) Mitchell.

She married Everette J. Allen on Nov. 30, 1945, in Auburn. He preceded her in death.

Also preceding her in death were three brothers, Charles Mitchell, Ben Mitchell and Norman Mitchell; and two sisters, Nolan Mitchell and Elishe Mitchell.

Surviving are a son, Edward Allen of Roseville, Calif.; two grandsons, Bradley J. Allen of Sacramento, Calif., and Roger E. Allen of Rancho San Margareta, Calif.; a granddaughter, Stacey Allen of Plesanton, Calif.; and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in Cedar Creek Cemetery in rural Garrett. Pastor David Farling will officiate.

There will be no calling.

Thomas Funeral Home of Garrett is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be sent to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Lillian Everitt

ANGOLA — Lillian I. Everitt, 88, died Saturday, June 21, 2003, at Northern Lakes Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Angola.

Mrs. Everitt was a homemaker and a member of Fairview Missionary Church in Angola, Scott Ladies Aide and Scott Homemakers.

She was born July 13, 1914, in Scott Township, Steuben County to Leslie E. and Katherine P. (Stokes) Cole.

She married Hurschel W. Everitt on June 14, 1934. He preceded her in death on July 13, 1999.

Also preceding her in death were a son, Max W. Everitt, and a brother, John Cole.

Surviving are a daughter, Nila A. Courtright of Hudson; five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday in Weicht Funeral Home, 207 N. West St., Angola. The Rev. Norman Fuller and the Rev. Norman Kistler will officiate. Burial will be in Teegardin Cemetery in Steuben County.

Calling is from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Fairview Missionary Church.

Patricia Beebe

FREMONT — Patricia M. Beebe, 69, died Friday, June 20, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Beebe was a homemaker. She was born Feb. 25, 1934, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to William Earle and Erma (Coffman) Cotter.

She married Jerry L. Beebe on Jan. 1, 1954. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Larry and Lori Beebe of Burr Ridge, Ill., and Michael and Nancy Beebe of Chicago; a daughter, Nancy Beebe of Warrenville, Ill.; eight grandchildren; her mother-in-law, Ercell Beebe of Fort Wayne; and a daughter-in-law, Lori Beebe of Shore View, Minn.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sons, Randy Beebe and Ronald Beebe.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday in Weicht Funeral Home, 207 N. West St., Angola. Donald Youso will officiate. Burial will be in Butler Cemetery.

Calling is from 2 to 5 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Steuben County Cancer Association or a church or charity of the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 22, 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Margarette Shaffer

ANDREWS — Margarette D. Shaffer, 89, died Thursday, June 19, 2003, at Timbercrest Senior Living Community in North Manchester.

Mrs. Shaffer formerly taught and was the head of the business education department at Smith-Green Community High School in Churubusco. She was a member of Delta Pi Epsilon and the Indiana State Retired Teachers Association.

She was born Feb. 18, 1914, in Reynolds to Henry C. and Mary Eva (Bigelow) Wiese. Her foster parents were Howard L. and Emma (Poe) Jeffrey. She married Kenneth L. Shaffer on Sept. 5, 1931, in Andrews. He preceded her in death Sept. 24, 1996.

She is survived by a daughter, Dr. Jane Elsmere of North Manchester; a granddaughter, Eva Aldrich of Franklin; and nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Bailey-Love Mortuary in Huntington. Chaplain David Doudt will officiate. Burial will be at Lancaster Cemetery in Huntington.

Calling is from 2 to 4 p.m. today at the mortuary.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
23

John Baughman

CHURUBUSCO — John F. Baughman, died at 1:04 p.m. Sunday, June 22, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

His wife, Marcella Mae (Geiger) Baughman, died Nov. 11, 1995.

Surviving relatives include three sons, Richard and Ronald L. Baughman, both of Churubusco, and Roger Baughman.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Clara Berkey

GOSHEN — Clara Berkey, 95, died at 1:30 a.m. Friday, June 20, 2003, at Greencroft Nursing Center.

She lived at Greencroft for 30 years and the rest of her life in the Shipshewana area. She was a homemaker and owned Golden Rule Book Store in LaGrange for seven years.

She was born in LaGrange County May 25, 1928, to Josiah and Magdelena (Yoder) Miller.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Ray J. Rosaleta Miller of Goshen; two sons, Austin and David, both of Goshen; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a sister, Alta Berkey of Goshen.

Preceding her in death were a daughter, Marilyn; a son, Dwight; a grandchild; three sisters, Orpha Nelson, Rachel Miller and Mabel Lambright; and three brothers, Ervin, Percy and Ralph Miller.

Services were today at 10 a.m. at Shore Mennonite Church, with the Revs. Carl Horner and Brent Eash of the church officiating. Burial was at Shore Cemetery.

Irma Ford

CHURUBUSCO — Irma L. Ford, 95, died at 10:20 p.m. Sunday, June 22, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne following an extended illness.

Surviving relatives include her daughter, Norma Juillerat of Churubusco.

Preceding her in death were her husband, John A. Ford; and son, John Ford, who died in 1998.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Guy Gross

CHURUBUSCO — Guy E. Gross, 93, died at 1 a.m. Monday, June 23, 2003, at The Oaks in Columbia City, where he had been a patient since May 28.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Lois (McGuire) Gross; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Louise and Donald Barnhart of Fort Wayne, Mary Ann and Leonard Hazen of Churubusco and Connie Teghmeyer of Columbia City; two sons and daughters-in-law, Don E. and Marilyn Gross and Lynn and Joellen Gross, both of Churubusco; and a daughter-in-law, Joyce A. Gross of Avilla.

Preceding him in death were a son, Robert J. Gross, who died in 1997.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Thomas Crain Jr.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Thomas Marshall Crain Jr., 61, died Sunday, June 15, 2003, at Granby, Conn., of cancer.

He lived in the area for 19 years. He was a real estate developer and home builder for 17 years in Connecticut. He served on nuclear submarines in the U.S. Navy for six years.

He was born in Angola Sept. 6, 1941, to Thomas M. and W. Marcella (Fanning) Crain.

Surviving are his stepmother, Iona Crain of Angola; three daughters, Cynthia Ann Monarca and Wendy Elizabeth Beebe, both of Windsor, Conn., and Sandra Jean Crain of Granby; one sister and brother-in-law, David A. and Sharon L. Field of Angola; one brother, Robert L. Crain of Pate City, Taiwan; one granddaughter, Sarah Ann Monarca; aunts and uncles, Maxine and Stephen Woodworth and Robert Fanning of Angola, Retha Crain of Fremont, Phyllis and Wallace Lobdell of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., Mary Johnson, Julia Dixon and Phyllis and Philip Kaiser, all of Fort Wayne, Virginia and William Persman and Mary and Ken Bailey all of El Paso, Texas; two nephews, one niece and numerous cousins.

Services were June 18 at Gayes-Huling & Carmon Funeral Home in Granby, with military honors. Burial was in National Cemetery in Andersonville, Ga.

Calling will be one hour before services.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sndf@gte.net.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 23 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Donna Schumacher

BRONSON, Mich. — Donna L. Schumacher, 86, died Saturday, June 21, 2003, at her home in Matteson Township.

She was a homemaker and farmer. She lived with her daughter Ruth, for the past nine years, coming from Albion. She was a member of Sacred Heart Church and its rosary society in Albion. She attended St. Charles and St. Mary's Catholic churches in Michigan and was a member of the Eagles in Albion.

She was born in Noble County, Ind., Jan. 11, 1917, to Emery and Mary (McNeal) Zigler.

Surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, Paul and Carole Schumacher of White Pigeon, Mathew and Shirley Schumacher of Richland Center, Wis., and Fredrick and Evon Schumacher of Pittsford, Mich.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Patricia and Donald Balyeat of Constantine, and Ruth and Henry Leaf of Bronson; 19 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a daughter, a granddaughter, three brothers, and two sisters.

Services will be Thursday at 10 a.m. (Indiana time) at St. Mary's of the Assumption Church in Bronson, with the Rev. Fr. Evanson Njogu officiating. Burial will be at Rehobeth Cemetery in Albion at noon.

Calling will be Wednesday from 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 p.m. and rosary at 6 p.m. (Indiana time) at Dutcher Funeral Home in Coldwater.

THE NEWS SUN
Kendallville, IN
June 24, 2003

Irma Ford

CHURUBUSCO — Irma L. Ford, 95, died at 10:20 p.m. Sunday, June 22, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne, where she resided since June 6.

She worked in the alterations department of Pollack Brothers and later at Patterson-Fletcher Department Store, both in Fort Wayne, retiring in 1972. She lived in Fort Wayne until moving to Churubusco in 1942. She was a member of the Churubusco United Methodist Church and was a 50-year member of the United Methodist Women.

She was born in Fort Wayne Oct. 9, 1907, to Herman Fred and Hermine (Kuh) Knake.

She married John A. Ford Oct. 10, 1925, in Fort Wayne. He died Aug. 16, 1977.

Surviving are a daughter, Norma Juillerat of Churubusco; five grandchildren and their spouses, J.R. and Kathy Ford and Kathy and Dennis Konger, all of Churubusco; Laurie and Patrick Marshal of Fort Wayne, Karen and Michael Peelman of Flower Mound, Texas, and Karla and Roger Linvill of Albion; 12 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were a son, John Ford, who died Nov. 8, 1998; son-in-law, Larry Juillerat, who died June 30, 1999; and a sister, Dorothy Kruse.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Scott Barger of Beacon Light Chapel officiating. Burial will be at Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

Calling will be Wednesday from 3 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana or to the donor's choice.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Guy Gross

Mr. Gross

CHURUBUSCO — Guy E. Gross, 93, died at 1 a.m. Monday, June 23, 2003, at The Oaks in Columbia City, where he had been a patient since May 28.

Mr. Gross was born April 10, 1910, in Smith Township to Morris and Susie (Switzer) Gross. He graduated from Churubusco High School in 1928. He was a lifelong resident of Smith Township and farmed with his brother, Herbert L. Gross, until his retirement in 1990.

He served as Smith Township trustee from 1943 to 1951, and was an 18-year member of the board of directors of the Whitley County Hospital. He was organizer, past president and honorary member of the Indiana Drainage Contractors Association. He was a member of Churubusco United Methodist Church, and a 50-year member of Churubusco Lodge 515 F&AM and Churubusco Order of the Eastern Star 136, where he was past worthy patron. He was also affiliated with Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Wayne and Mizpah Shrine in Fort Wayne. He was also a charter member of the Churubusco Rotary Club.

He married Mary Lois McGuire Nov. 3, 1929, at her parents' home near Churubusco. She survives.

Also surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Louise and Donald Barnhart of Fort Wayne, Mary Ann and Leonard Hazen of Churubusco and Connie Nestel Teghtmeyer of Columbia City; two sons and daughters-in-law, Don E. and Marilyn Gross and Lynn and Joellen Gross, all of Churubusco; and a daughter-in-law, Joyce A. Gross of Avilla; 17 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; several step-grandchildren; and several step-great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were a son, Robert J. Gross, who died Dec. 29, 1997; two sons-in-law, Roger L. Nestel, who died May 25, 1984 and James A. Teghtmeyer, who died March 23, 1999; three brothers, Clarence, Ernest and Herbert Gross; and a sister, Erma Wilkinson.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco with the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs of Churubusco United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m., with Masonic services at 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the church or Churubusco Lodge 515 F&AM.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheets-funeralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
Kendallville, IN
June 24, 2003

The following obituary is being republished with new information about surviving family members.

Oscar Slusher

ASHLEY — Oscar G. Slusher, 50, died Thursday, June 19, 2003, at his home in Ashley.

Mr. Slusher was a truck driver for Kodak, attended Barker Chapel Church and enjoyed fishing, pool, motorcycles, computers and model cars.

He was born Jan. 2, 1953, in Denver to Guy E. and Helen (Houser) Slusher. They preceded him in death.

He is survived by his companion, Mary Hale of Ashley; four daughters, Rachael McDonald of Hobart, Bobbie Slusher of Redondo Beach, Calif., Becky Slusher of Edon, Ohio, and Hope Thomas of Indiana; two sons, Jason Slusher of TriLakes and Josh Thompson of South Whitley; a brother, Ed Slusher of California; three grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; and special friends Randy Batchelder, Jessica Batchelder and Trevor Batchelder.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Slusher.

Services were at 1 p.m. today at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier. Pastor Clair Hochstetler will officiate. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery in Ligonier.

Memorials are to the family.

James Cope

FORT WAYNE — James Brian Cope, 46, died Wednesday, June 18, 2003.

He was an entomologist. He was a graduate of Purdue University and a member of A.A.

He was born in Hartford City July 23, 1956.

Surviving are his companion, Teri Marquart of Fort Wayne; his father, Ralph D. Cope of Hartford City; two brothers, Doug Cope of Avilla and Mark Cope of Hartford City; a niece, Angela Cope; and two nephews, Matthew and Timothy Cope.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Mary B. Cope.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home, 1140 Lake Ave.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home.

John Baughman

CHURUBUSCO — John F. Baughman, died at 1:04 p.m. Sunday, June 22, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne where he had been a patient nearly two weeks.

He was a farmer in Noble Township and later worked at Dana Weatherhead Division in Columbia City. He was self-employed hauling sand and gravel for several years, retiring in 1978. He had graduated from Wolf Lake High School in 1934. He and his wife spent winters in Wauchula, Fla., for many years.

He was born in Noble Township Feb. 19, 1916, to Chauncey C. and Bessie (Friskney) Baughman.

He married Marcella Mae Geiger Jan. 28, 1939. She died Nov. 11, 1995.

Surviving relatives include three sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Jeanne Baughman and Ronald L. and Debbie Baughman, all of Churubusco, and Roger and Lydia Baughman; a sister, Ruth Engle of Albion; seven grandchildren and their spouses, Robin Baughman, Christopher and Melissa Baughman and Lori Baughman, all of Fort Wayne, Michelle and Manuel Andrade of California, Melissa Baughman and Ryan and Amanda Baughman, all of Churubusco, and Chad and Katie Baughman of Columbia City; and eight great-grandchildren.

Also preceding him in death were a brother, Gene E. Baughman; and a granddaughter, Stacey Baughman.

Services will be Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with Pastor Edward A. Thompson of Good News Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be at Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Lung Association.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 25 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Connor Oesch

SHIPSHEWANA — Connor S. Oesch, 2, died at 8:40 p.m. Monday, June 23, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital, following an accident at his home.

Connor Oesch

He was born in Kemerovo, Russia, Dec. 9, 2000. He had been in the United States since Jan. 18. He loved to sing and worship in church.

Surviving are his parents, Bradley and Traci (Anderson) Oesch of Shipshewana; grandparents, Bruce and Gloria Oesch of Goshen, Karen Oesch of Howe, Melvin and Alice Trammell of Millersburg and Bill Anderson of Weatherford, Texas; great-grandparents, Stanley and Arleen Oesch of Topeka and Dorothy Sanders of Brunswick, Ohio; sisters, Kirstin Dawn, Tori Richele Jean and Bradi Lynn Oesch, all at home; and one brother, Dawson Spencer Oesch, at home.

Preceding him in death were a brother, Spencer Reed Oesch, who died Sept. 20, 1999; and a grandmother, Shirley Anderson, who died May 3, 1998.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Shore Mennonite Church, S.R. 5, Shipshewana, with the Rev. Ross Gerber of Grace Christian Fellowship, Sturgis, officiating. Burial will be at Eden Cemetery.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at Emma Mennonite Church, 200 S. C.R. 600W, Topeka.

Memorials are to the Connor S. Oesch Memorial Fund, in care of the family.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Wanetta Cook

ROME CITY — Wanetta Cook, 92, died at 1:15 p.m. Tuesday, June 24, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

She was a lifetime area resident. She retired as the only licensed female well driller in the northeastern United States, working with E. Cook & Son Well Drilling. She was a member of Brimfield United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women.

She was born in Grabill June 15, 1911, to Jonas and Anna Edith (Leeth) Brown.

She married Emmanuel Clarence Cook March 18, 1929. He died May 20, 1973.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Ernest and Janet Cook of Wawaka; eight daughters and three sons-in-law, Edith Sprandel of Kendallville, Inez and Charles Mynhier of Wawaka, Patsy Adams of Rome City, Carolyn DePew of Ligonier, Geraldine Witham of Rome City, Sandra Kelley of Vandalia, Mich., Ruth and Paul Rupert of Ligonier and Beverly and Timothy Oesch of Topeka; 30 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

One sister, Phyllis Raper, preceded her in death.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville, with the Rev. Mike Neff of Brimfield United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be at Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Brimfield United Methodist Church or Parkview Home Health & Hospice.

Warren Barden

LAGRANGE — Warren W. Barden, 79, died at 10:55 a.m. Tuesday, June 24, 2003, at home.

He was self-employed as a manufacturer of concrete yard statues.

He was born in Lyons, Ohio May 4, 1924, to Lowell and Iva June (Evers) Barden.

He was married to Rita Menden. She died in 1993.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Sandy Boals of Howe, Judy and Dean Clark of Delta, Ohio, and Charlene and Richard O'Brien of Morenci, Mich.; two sisters, Elda Mae Woodby of Georgia and Alice Batdorft of Tennessee; three brothers, Wendell of Toledo, Gaylord of Newark, Ohio, and Harlan Barden of Lyons; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were two sons, Randy and Ricky; two sisters; and one brother.

Services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange, with Father Paul Faroh officiating. Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be two hours before services at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health & Hospice, LaGrange branch.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 25 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Quentin Williams

OCEAN GROVE, N.J. — Quentin J. Williams, 84, formerly of Kendallville, died Saturday, June 7, 2003, at Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune.

He was ordained as a Presbyterian minister in January 1963 and served pastorates in Paterson, Irvington and Lakehurst, all in New Jersey. After retirement, he served interim pastorates in Winona Lake and Ligonier in Indiana.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Air Force. He was past master of Horizon Daylight Lodge 299 F&AM, chaplain of Ocean Lodge 89 F&AM and former chaplain of Kendallville 276 F&AM. He was a 33rd Degree Mason, co-director general of degree work in the Scottish Rite, Valley of Central New Jersey ASSR and past patron of Noble Chapter 122 OES.

He was born in Kendallville the son of Clair and Pearl Williams.

After retirement, he returned to Indiana while maintaining his Ocean Grove home. He gave presentations, in period costumes, of biblical and historical characters, specializing in George Washington.

Surviving are his wife, Doris Kearney Williams; and several nieces and nephews, including Nancy and Gary Strater, Bonnie and John Hall, Pam and Doug Younce and Jerry and Diann Stienbarger, all of Kendallville.

Preceding him in death were two brothers, Ralph and Richard; and a sister, Harriet Stienbarger.

Services were held June 11 at the First Presbyterian Church in Manasquan, N.J. Burial was at Lauren Grove Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the 32nd Degree Masonic Learning Center, P.O. Box 519, Lexington, MA 02420-0519; the Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association, 154 Pitman Ave., Ocean Grove, NJ 07756; or Shriners Hospital for Children, 3551 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19140, Attn. Administration.

Waldo Seagly

WAYLAND, Mich. —Waldo E. Seagly, 91, formerly of Topeka, died Monday, June 23, 2003, at Home of Hope Hospice Center in Grand Rapids.

He was former owner of the Seagly Hardware & Farm Equipment of Topeka. He moved from Topeka to Wayland, in November 2001.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving with the U.S. Army. He retired as a colonel in the Army Reserves. He was a life member of LaGrange American Legion Post 215 and NRA. He was a former member of the board of directors and executive committee of the Indiana State Rifle & Pistol Association, Reserve Officers Association and Retired Officers Association.

He was born in Topeka Sept. 6, 1911, to Dail and Edna (Miller) Seagly.

He married Neva M. Schlabach May 6, 1934, in Crown Point. She died Dec. 12, 1997.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and JoAnn Seagly of Wayland; a half sister, Jean Crouse of Topeka; and half brother, Richard Seagly of Fort Wayne; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Bob Wyman officiating. Burial will be at Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be today from 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Ilo Davis

KENDALLVILLE — Ilo M. Davis, 85, died Monday, June 23, 2003, at the home of her niece in Mill Creek, Ind., where she had resided since November 2002.

She had retired in 1983 from Kraft Foods in Kendallville after 27 years of service. She was a member of St. John Lutheran Church in Kendallville and was an avid bowler and member of the 600 Club. She was a graduate of Kendallville High School.

She was born in Kendallville Jan. 16, 1918, to Harry and Hilda (Witt) Swartz.

She first married Charles Kuhn. He died Oct. 1, 1965. She then married Joseph Robert Davis May 16, 1974. He died Sept. 16, 2000.

Surviving are a niece and her husband, Sharlene and Richard Borkowski of Mill Creek; five nephews and their spouses, Dennis and Sally Ford of Hermitage, Pa., Lauren and Nellie Ford of Mill Creek, James Swartz of Auburn, Krag and Donna Swartz of St. Paul, Minn., and David and Kathy Swartz of Fort Wayne; and several great- and great-great-nieces and nephews.

One son, Duane Kuhn, preceded her in death Oct. 20, 1994.

Services will be Friday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Paul Griebel officiating. Burial will be at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, rural Kendallville.

Calling will be Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to St. John Lutheran Church or School or to the American Cancer Society.

Condolences may be e-mailed at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 25 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Family grieving again

Mourns second tragic loss of a child

BY MAGGIE SHEPARD
newssun@ligtel.com

LAGRANGE — Connor S. Oesch was going to grow up in America.

Traci and Bradley Oesch adopted 2-year-old Conner and his 5-year-old brother, Dawson, from Russia in January, adding two little boys to the couple's three young daughters.

Connor Oesch

The Oesches' biological son, Spencer Reed Oesch, was killed in September 1999 in an accident at the family's church. He and some other children were playing when a piece of concrete playground equipment hit the boy, killing Spencer.

The Oesches are again facing the loss of a child after Connor died Monday night.

Medical examiner Robert Gutekunsk of St. Joseph Medical Center in Fort Wayne performed the autopsy that preliminarily determined Connor died primarily of a liver laceration due to blunt force trauma, and not from drowning as was previously thought.

LaGrange County Sheriff's Department Lt. Tad Oakley said the injuries are consistent with a child standing on the edge of a tub, then perhaps slipping and falling, smacking his side against the side of the tub.

According to police reports, Traci was bathing the boy at about 7 p.m. when her husband called out to her. He was in the driveway washing the car.

SEE **LOSS,** PAGE **A6**

Next pg.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 25 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Continued

LOSS: *First son died in 1999 at church dedication*

FROM PAGE A1

"The bathroom was in close proximity to the driveway," Oakley said.

In the time she was gone, Connor apparently fell on the edge of the bathtub, injuring his liver. The tub was described as being unusually high-edged with whirlpool jets.

"The only thing that really fits is if the kid was up on the edge," Oakley said.

After the accident was discovered, Traci called 911 while her husband attempted CPR.

Emergency workers found the boy outside of the tub and took him to LaGrange Community Hospital where he was pronounced dead at 8:40 p.m.

"These are just normal people. A normal mom and dad who love their kids," said Pastor Ross Gerber, senior pastor of the Oesches' church in Sturgis, Mich., Grace Christian Fellowship.

"The boys really fit well into their family," Gerber said.

Though Connor was only 2-years-old, he loved to sing and worship. He and Dawson were working on the language barrier and starting to ease into church life.

"They were a fun family, just a great family," said church member Jane Mast.

Connor was born in Komorovo, Russia. He and his brother received a warm welcome from church members, who put up signs and were happy to see the Oesch family grow.

The family is keeping quiet about their tragedy. Parents, grandparents and great-grandparents wish to mourn in private.

Gerber said the family is moving through the grieving process as best they can.

"They are having some flashbacks to Spencer's death, how could they not," he said.

Visitation has been scheduled for Thursday afternoon from 2 to 8 p.m. at Emma Mennonite Church in Topeka. The funeral is scheduled for 11 a.m. at Shore Mennonite Church in Shipshewana.

Connor will be buried in Eden Cemetery in Topeka.

Spencer Oesch was killed in a freak mishap at a church dedication service on Sept. 20, 1999.

The 4-year-old boy was at the playground of the River of Life Fellowship Church, located at S.R. 13 and S.R. 120 during the dedication when a piece of concrete sewer-type pipe, being used as playground equipment, apparently shifted and rolled down a slight incline and over his head.

Spencer Oesch reportedly suffered trauma to his head. The pipe, which was about 2 1/2 feet wide and about 3 feet in diameter according to the Middlebury EMS report, continued rolling after striking the child.

Middlebury EMS personnel transported Oesch to a Bristol ambulance. The boy was transported to Elkhart General Hospital and later to South Bend Memorial Hospital where he died at 2:50 a.m. Sept. 21, 1999.

ALBION NEW ERA
JUNE 25 2003

Anna Lough

LIGONIER – Anna J. Lough, 81, died Friday, June 20, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital.

She was born December 14, 1921, in Dayton, Ohio, to Nathan C. and Mary P. (Kaehler) Sollenberger. She married John M. Lough on November 29, 1946, in Dayton. He preceded her in death in 1973.

A resident of Ligonier for over 50 years, Mrs. Lough had been employed as a teachers assistant at Ligonier Elementary School. Prior to that, she worked for Kidd & Co. and Richard's Music.

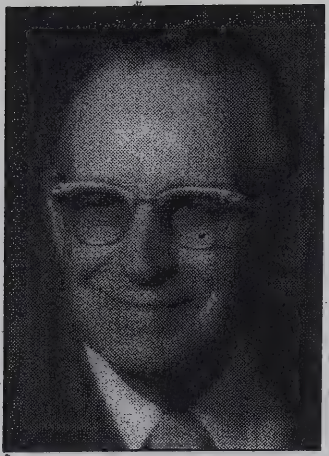
She was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church and Ladies Sodality. She enjoyed playing bingo, reading and gardening. She especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Dixie Lough of Fort Wayne; two daughters and sons-in-law, Patricia and Dan Burnworth of Kimmell and Christine and Kermit Leamon of Goshen; one brother and sister-in-law, Thomas and Barb Sollenberger of Xenia, Ohio; one sister, Helen Kelly of Dayton; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were six brothers and one sister.

Services were held Monday, June 23, 2003, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Ligonier. Burial was in Oak Park Cemetery in Ligonier.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Association or Goshen Hospital and Health Care Foundation.



Guy Gross

CHURUBUSCO -- Guy E. Gross, 93, widely acquainted Smith Township farmer and a resident of rural Churubusco, died at 1 a.m. Monday, June 23, 2003, at The Oaks in Columbia City. He had been a patient there for the past month.

Mr. Gross was born on April 10, 1910 in Smith Township, a son of Morris and Susie Switzer Gross. He spent his formative years there and graduated from Churubusco High School in 1928. The following year he was married to Mary Lois McGuire on November 3, 1929 at the home of her parents near Churubusco. The couple have been lifelong residents of Smith Township.

He was engaged in farming all of his life, along with his brother Herbert L. Gross, and retired in 1990.

In addition to agricultural occupation, his life was marked by community service and memberships in several organizations. He served as Smith Township Trustee from 1943 to 1951, and was an eighteen year member of the Board of Directors of Whitley Memorial Hospital. In addition, he was the organizer and past president of the Indiana Drain-age Contractors Association, and received an honorary membership in that organization.

He was a member of the Churubusco United Methodist Church, and was a 50 year member of Churubusco Lodge 515 F&AM, and Churubusco Order of the Eastern Star 136, where he was a past worthy patron. Other Masonic affiliations include the Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Wayne, and Mizpah Shrine in Fort Wayne. He was also a charter member of the Churubusco Rotary Club.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Robert J. Gross on December 29, 1997; and by two sons-in-law, Roger L. Nestel on May 25, 1984, and James A. Teghtmeyer on March 23, 1999. Also deceased are three brothers, Clarence Gross, Ernest Gross, and Herbert Gross; and his sister, Erma Wilkinson.

Surviving are his wife, M. Lois; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Louise and Donald Barnhart of Fort Wayne, Mary Ann and Leonard Hazen of Churubusco and Connie Nestel Teghtmeyer of Columbia City; two sons and daughters-in-law, Don E. and Marilyn Gross, and Lynn and Joellen Gross, all of Churubusco; another daughter-in-law, Joyce A. Gross of Avilla; 17 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, several step-grandchildren and several step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at the Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco with Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs, pastor of Churubusco United Methodist Church, officiating.

The family will receive friends at the mortuary on Thursday from 2-8 p.m. Churubusco Lodge 515 F&AM will conduct memorial services at 8 p.m. Thursday at the mortuary.

Interment will be in the Eel River Cemetery, south of Churubusco.

Memorials may be directed to the Churubusco United Methodist Church or Churubusco Lodge 515 F&AM.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

ALBION NEW ERA
2003
JUNE '25

John F. Baughman

CHURUBUSCO – John F. Baughman, 87, a resident of Churubusco, died Sunday, June 22, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne. He had been a patient there for the past one and one-half weeks.

Mr. Baughman was born in Noble Township in Noble County on February 19, 1916, a son of Chauncey C. and Bessie Friskney Baughman. He spent his formative years in Noble Township and graduated from Wolf Lake High School in 1934.

On January 28, 1939, he was married in Columbia City to Marcella Mae Geiger. The couple spent all of their married lives in this area and wintered in Wauchula, Florida, for many years.

As a young man he was engaged in farming in Noble Township and later worked at Dana Weatherhead Division in Columbia City. He was self-employed hauling sand and gravel for several years, retiring in 1978.

Mrs. Baughman died on November 11, 1995. Also deceased is his brother, Gene E. Baughman; and a granddaughter, Stacey Baughman.

The surviving relatives include three sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Jeanne Baughman, and Ronald L. and Debbie Baughman, all of Churubusco, and Roger and Lydia Baughman; his sister, Ruth Engle of Albion; seven grandchildren, Robin Baughman, Christopher (Melissa) Baughman, and Lori Baughman, all of Fort Wayne, Michelle (Manuel) Andrade of California, Melissa Baughman and Ryan (Amanda) Baughman, all of Churubusco, and Chad (Katie) Baughman of Columbia City; and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, June 25, 2003, at the Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco with Pastor Edward A. Thompson of Good News Baptist Church, officiating. Burial was in the Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

For those who wish, memorials may be directed to the American Lung Association.

Eula "Fern" Bowman

FORT WAYNE – Eula "Fern" Bowman, 80, died Monday, June 16, 2003, at Heritage Park Health Care Center in Fort Wayne.

Born in Jordon, MN, she was a Billing Clerk with Lincoln Life Insurance Company for 27 years and retired in 1982.

Survivors include sons, Jack Eugene Schoenherr and Jerry F. Schoenherr, both of Fort Wayne, Tim L. Schoenherr of Albion; five grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by brother, Elmer Asbell in 1996.

Services were held Thursday, June 19, 2003, at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home in Fort Wayne. Burial was in Covington Memorial Gardens.

Memorials are to Visiting Nurse Service's Hospice Home.

Roberta M. McNear

ALBION – Roberta M. McNear of Albion, died at Parkview Noble Hospital on Sunday, June 15, 2003. Funeral services were held on Saturday, June 21, 2003, at the Huntsman Rochester Funeral Home in Rochester, PA.

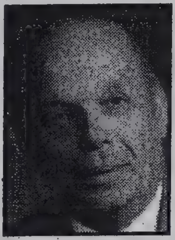
A memorial service will be held at the Albion Wesleyan Church, 800 E. Main St., Albion on Saturday, June 28, 2003, at 11:00 a.m.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 26 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Michael Resak

CROMWELL — Michael F. Resak, 71, died at 2:06 a.m. Wednesday, June 25, 2003, at Whitley County Hospital, Columbia City.

He was a technician for General Telephone for 25 years, retiring in 1991. He lived in Noble County for 31 years, moving from Fort Wayne. He was a member of Albion Eagles Lodge 2455 and was a past state and district director. He was a member of GTE Retired Employees and Englewood Methodist Church in Englewood, Fla. he was a veteran of the U.S. Navy.


Mr. Resak

He was born in Johnson City, N.Y., March 29, 1932, to Michael and Anna Resak.

He first married Barbara North Aug. 23, 1964. She died May 31, 1989. He then married Nancy Schesky Nov. 24, 1990. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Ann Kreger of Larwill; three stepdaughters, Julia Stucky of Fort Wayne, Sheila Doane of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Jennifer Jaxtheimer of Fort Wayne; a stepson, Chuck Irvin of Fort Wayne; and 13 grandchildren.

Preceding him in death was a sister, Ann.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, Albion, with the Rev. Van Cleave officiating.

Calling will be Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Bernard Meyer

AVILLA — Bernard L. "Bud" Meyer, 74, died at 8:45 p.m. Tuesday, June 24, 2003, at home.

He was a tool grinder for Zollner Corp. in Fort Wayne for 31 years. He was a lifelong resident of Avilla. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and member of American Legion Post 240 in Avilla.

He was born in Avilla Dec. 6, 1928, to William and Gertrude (Snider) Meyer.

He married Alice H. Teders June 12, 1954, in Avilla. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Susan L. and Joseph Litchfield of Avilla and Sandra L. and Jeffery Harlan of Fort Wayne; four sons and daughters-in-law, Daniel B. and Judy Meyer of LaOtto, Edward J. and Darla Meyer of Kendallville, Carey H. and Tami Meyer of Fort Wayne and Kurt F. and Malinda Meyer of Avilla; a special friend, Paul Shepherd of Avilla; 24 grandchildren, Emily, Adam, Alison, Brett, Samantha, Aaron, Danielle, Audrey, Elizabeth, Zachary, Abigail, Logan, Joshua, Ryan, Stacey, Lindsay, Maria, Phillip, Sarah, Brooke, Noah, Jennifer, Nicholas and Matthew; three sisters, Agnes Tilbury of Fort Wayne and Sister Marie Meyer and Bernadette Teders, both of Avilla; and two brothers, Edward and Francis Meyer, both of Avilla.

Preceding him in death were three sisters, Evelyn Freeman, Wilma Schmenk and Mildred Fischer; and two brothers, Robert and Herman Meyer.

Services will be Friday at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla, with Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Burial will be at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be today from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8:30 p.m., with rosary service at 8 p.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla and one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to St. Mary's Catholic School or to Masses at the church.

Roberta McNear

ALBION — Roberta M. McNear, 45, died at Parkview Noble Hospital Sunday, June 15, 2003.

Services were held June 21 at the Huntsman Rochester Funeral Home in Rochester, Pa.

A memorial service will be held at the Albion Wesleyan Church, 800 E. Main St., Albion, on Saturday at 11 a.m.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society or Hospice.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 26 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Clyde Handshoe

HOWE — Clyde Handshoe, 72, died at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 25, 2003, at home.

He had worked at foundries in Kendallville and Sturgis, Mich. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean War.

He was born in Garrett, Ky., March 17, 1931, to Floyd and Mary (Watkins) Handshoe.

He married Shirley Lawson in 1949 in Paintsville, Ky. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Jerry Handshoe of Sturgis, Mich., and Randy L. Handshoe of Howe; three sisters, Maudie Ritchie of Stroh, Tiny Sturgills of Wapakoneta, Ohio, and Arbutus Lykins of Willard, Ohio; a brother, Floyd Handshoe of LaGrange; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were a daughter, Patty Sue Handshoe; a sister, Fanny Turner; and a stepbrother, Arnie Barnet.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe, with the Rev. Willie Collins officiating. Burial will be at Ontario Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the dor choice.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 27 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Angela Adams

ROME CITY — A memorial service for Angela Adams will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Cornerstone Wesleyan Church in Albion, with Pastor George Cecil officiating. Burial will be at Merriam Christian Chapel Cemetery.

Ms. Adams

Ms. Adams, 24, was found dead March 21, 2003, west of Kendallville, and was believed to have died on or about Sept. 13, 2002.

She was born in San Jose, Calif., Jan. 9, 1978, to Robert M. Mahar and Diana Sue Meroney. Her father survives in New York and her mother survives in Albion.

Also surviving are two daughters, Chelsie Dawn Adams and Erica Lee Adams, both of Rome City; a son, Dominic Trey Adams of Rome City; her fiance, Shane Terry of Ligonier; a half brother, Joey Treesh; a half sister, Michelle Treesh of Kendallville; two uncles and their spouses, Leland R. and Janet Meroney of Albion and Randy and Peggy Marks of Wolcottville; one aunt and her husband, Norma and Randy Miller of Albion; and cousins, Christopher and Alyssa Marks of Albion and Jake Phillips of Albion, Daniel, Jamie, Hannah and Ethan Kuhn of Gilbert Lake.

Preceding her in death were a grandmother, Margaret Boarders; a grandfather, Leland Meroney Sr.; an uncle, John Wayne Meroney; and a cousin, Randi Sue Marks.

Calling will be one hour before services at the church.

Memorials are to the family.

Orr Funeral Home in Albion is in charge of arrangements.

Della Miller

LIGONIER — Della Dora Miller, 93, formerly of Middlebury, died at 9 p.m. Wednesday, June 25, 2003, at Avalon Village, where she had resided for five years.

She and her husband owned and operated Miller's Electric Welding and Miller's Garage in Middlebury for several years after its opening in 1935.

Mrs. Miller

She was born in Benton Township May 19, 1910, to William A. and Dora E. (Tomlonson) Lantz.

She married Amos N. Miller Nov. 26, 1931, in Syracuse. He died Dec. 16, 1973.

Surviving are a daughter, Joyce Cripe of Middlebury; two sons and daughters-in-law, Lester and Marilyn Miller of Ligonier and Lowell and Nancy Miller of Middlebury; 10 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.

Preceding her in death were a son-in-law, Dennis Cripe; eight brothers; and five sisters.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury, with the Rev. Charles Tayler officiating. Burial will be at Brown Cemetery, Millersburg.

Calling will be today from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Helen Hoover

CHURUBUSCO — Helen Hoover, 85, died at 5:15 a.m. Thursday, June 26, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne, after being admitted Wednesday.

She worked as a long distance operator for General Telephone for over 20 years. She moved from Fort Wayne to Churubusco in 1972, and retired in 1977. She was a graduate of Elmhurst High School.

She was born in Story City, Iowa, July 31, 1917, to James and Catherine (Nelson) Gillie.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Darlene and James Palmer of rural Columbia City and Marlene Kuehn of Fort Wayne; a son and daughter-in-law, Jack R. and Nita Miller of Readyville, Tenn.; 10 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were a son, Robert J. Miller; three brothers; a grandson; and a great-granddaughter.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Paul D. White of Churubusco Church of the Nazarene officiating. Burial will be at Greenlawn Memorial Park in Fort Wayne.

Calling will be one hour before services at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

JUNE 27 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Betty Goodrich

WOLF LAKE — Betty L. Goodrich, 71, died at 10:15 p.m. Wednesday, June 25, 2003, at home.

Mrs. Goodrich

She worked as clerk for her husband in the Noble Township trustee office for 16 years. She also worked in the offices of the Noble County recorder, auditor and treasurer for 14 years. She and her husband lived in Whitley County for eight years and moved to Wolf Lake in March 1960. She attended Wolf Lake Baptist Church.

She was born in Whitley County Sept. 18, 1931, to Clinton and Lucile (Brown) Bohnstedt. She graduated from Larwill High School.

She married Phillip D. Goodrich April 12, 1952. He survives.

Also surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, Kerry and Robin Goodrich of High lake, Mark and Tammy Goodrich of Bear Lake and James and Patricia Goodrich of Mooresville; five grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; a great-granddaughter; two stepgreat-grandchildren; two brothers, Gene Bohnstedt of Churubusco and Richard Bohnstedt of Milford; and three sisters, Bonnie Michael of Philadelphia, Colleen Ward of Fort Wayne and Carol Thomas of West Branch, Iowa.

Services will be Sunday at 2 p.m. at Smith & Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with Pastor Dan Carlson and Deaconess Karen Kosberg officiating. Burial will be at Thorn Cemetery, Ormas.

Evelyn Iden

MISHAWAKA — Evelyn L. Iden, 89, died Thursday, June 26, 2003, at Rosewood Terrace, Elkhart.

She was born in Wawaka Sept. 2, 1913, to Harley and Adeline (Eby) Inks.

She was married to Ray A. Iden. He preceded her in death.

Surviving are three daughters, Shirley Coe of Columbia City, Sandra Pherson of Cincinnati and Sharon Waller of Finley, Ohio; a son, Jerry Iden of Mishawaka; a sister, Kathryn Miller of Goshen; and a brother, Howard Ink of Colorado Springs, Colo.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Bubb Funeral Chapel North, 3910 N. Main St., Mishawaka, with the Rev. Bob Siegrist officiating. Burial will be at Indian Village Cemetery.

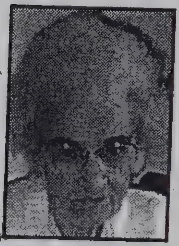
Calling will be Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Calling will be Saturday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, A.L.S., or the Whitley Branch of Parkview Home Health and Health.

G. Grenivere Kugler

LAOTTO — G. Grenivere "Babe" Kugler, 97, died Thursday, June 26, 2003, at 7:05 a.m., in the United Methodist Memorial Home at Warren.


Miss Kugler

She was a lifetime LaOtto resident before entering Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla in 1992. She had lived at the United Methodist Memorial Home in Warren for the past eight years.

After serving as a teacher at LaOtto Elementary School for 43 years, she retired in June 1970.

She was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church of LaOtto.

She was born Sept. 24, 1905, in LaOtto, to Isidor and Barbara (Grim) Kugler.

Several nieces and nephews survive.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Wayne Kugler and Herman Kugler, and two sisters, Margaret Whan and Mabel Garman.

Services will be Monday at 2 p.m. in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with the Rev. Susan Socha officiating. Burial will be in the Huntertown Cemetery.

Calling is Monday from noon to 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Emmanuel Lutheran Church of LaOtto.

Send condolences to:
condolencethomas@skyenet.net

THE NEWS SUN

JUNE 27 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Esther Miller

MIDDLEBURY — Esther Miller, 83, died at 12:10 p.m. Wednesday, June 25, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital after suffering a stroke Monday.

She was a homemaker and member of the Old Order Amish Church.

She was born in Nappanee Nov. 19, 1919, to John J. and Anna "Maud" (Miller) Miller.

She married Roman J. Miller March 27, 1941, in Nappanee. He died March 28, 1958. She then married Daniel J. Miller Oct. 5, 1965, in Goshen. He survives.

Also surviving are five daughters and sons-in-law, Wanda and Alvin Hershberger of Middlebury, Erma and Wayne Troyer of Topeka, Loretta and Ervin Miller of Middlebury, Rosemary and Perry A. Yoder of Middlebury and Irene and Floyd Barkman of Goshen; three sons and daughters-in-law, Earl R. and Esther Miller of Middlebury, John R. and Waneta Miller of Topeka and Steven R. and Katherine Miller of Goshen; a stepdaughter and her husband, Mary Ellen and John Hochstetler of Middlebury; two stepsons and their wives, Leroy and Maryanna Miller and Verlin and Nettie Miller, all of Middlebury; 48 grandchildren; 125 great-grandchildren; five stepgreat-great-grandchildren; 17 stepgrandchildren; and 80 stepgreat-grandchildren; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Mary Helmuth of Goshen, Emma and Neal Miller of Ligonier and Lovina and Albert Miller of Sarasota, Fla.; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Earl J. and Laura Miller of Nappanee, and Noah J. and Katie Miller and John J. and Verna Miller, all of Topeka.

Preceding her in death were a stepdaughter, Loretta Miller, who died Dec. 24, 1961; two step granddaughters, Loranna Sue Miller and Karen Ann Miller; and one brother, Glenn Miller.

Services will be Saturday at 9:30 a.m. at the Kenny Jones residence on the corner of C.R. 24 and C.R. 43, Middlebury, with Bishop Allen Miller and home ministers officiating. Burial will ill be at Bontrager Cemetery, Middlebury.

Calling is all day today at Mrs. Miller's home, 60210 C.R. 37, Middlebury.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Bernice Rettinger

LAGRANGE — Bernice B. Rettinger, 87, died at 12:50 a.m. Monday, June 23, 2003, at Life Care Center.

She and her husband owned and operated the Inwood General Store for many years. She lived in Plymouth until late 1991 when she moved to LaGrange. The couple had lived in the Lake Gage area from 1963 to 1974.

She was born in Hammond May 17, 1916, to Charles and Catherine (Homrich) Bauman.

She married Carl Rettinger March 31, 1945, in Hammond. He died April 14, 1991.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Carla and Bob Jones of LaGrange, Doris and Victor Newberg of Buchanan, Mich., and Rochelle Noble of Mooresville; seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren; two step great-granchildren; and four step great-great-grandchildren.

Services were Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Van Gilder Funeral Home in Plymouth, with the Rev. Dexter Garmon officiating. Burial was at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Bourbon.

Condolences may be e-mailed at www.vangilderfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 28 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Donald Schaffter

EDON, Ohio — Donald D. Shaffter, 71, of rural Edon, Ohio, died Friday, June 27, 2003, in Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was a self-employed carpenter and served in the U.S. Army's 969th Field Artillery Battalion of the 8th Army during the Korean Conflict. He was a lifelong Edon area resident and a 1949 graduate of Edon High School.

He was born Dec. 12, 1931, in Northwest Township, Williams County, Ohio, to Raymond and Otilla (Kaiser) Schaffter. On Jan. 20, 1955, in Edon, he married Caryl Brandon, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Steve Schaffter of Edon and Andy and Stacy Schaffter of Montpelier, Ohio; two daughters and sons-in-law, Sally and Gary Werker of Goshen and Peggy and Tim Disbro of Edon; nine grandchildren and their spouses, Curt Bentley, Wendy Bentley, Chad and Sarah Werker, Jennie and Jeff Meyer, Trevor Werker, Adam Disbro, Connie Disbro, Elaine Schaffter and April Schaffter; three great-grandchildren; and three sisters and a brother-in-law, Elsie Brown of Angola, Doris and Jerry Crites of Camden, Mich., and Margaret Schaffter of Bryan, Ohio.

Three brothers, Weldon, Ora and Paul Schaffter, and two sisters, Olga Livensparger and Ester Renbeck, preceded him in death.

Graveside services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Edon Cemetery in Edon, with Pastor Eric Dailey officiating. Calling will be Sunday from 2-8 p.m. at Wilson-Geesey Funeral Home in Montpelier.

Memorials are to the Edon EMS or an organization of the donor's choice.

Kenneth Young

COLUMBIA CITY — Kenneth Clayton Young, 83, died Friday, June 27, 2003, at his home in Columbia City.

He was a self-employed contractor from 1970-1992, and owner of the White House Tavern in Merriam for 16 years. He was a graduate of North Side High School in Fort Wayne.

He was born April 28, 1920, in Fort Wayne, to Wellington and Myrtle (Hamilton) Young. On Jan. 1, 1941, in Fort Wayne, he married Dorothy Harmeyer, and she preceded him in death on March 31, 1997. Twelve siblings are also deceased.

Surviving are two sons, David L. Young of Churubusco and Kirk A. Young of Columbia City; a daughter, Diane Susan Jordan of Columbia City; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Private family services were held. Shoda-Wilkinson Funeral Home in Columbia City was in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Wanetta Cook** were Friday at 10 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville. The Rev. Mike Neff officiated. Burial was in Orange Cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers were Michael, Sean, Robert and Daniel Rupert. Active pallbearers were Paul and James Sprandel, Ron Witham, David Adams, Dale and Chad Mynhier, Josh Schermerhorn, Ryan Oesch and Jim Walter.

Services Pending

BUTLER — **Marie L. Perkins**, 68, died Thursday, June 26, 2003, in the home of her son in Butler. Services are pending at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville.

THE NEWS SUN

JUNE 29 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Mabel Workman

NORTH MANCHESTER — Mabel L. Workman, 93, died Friday, June 27, 2003, at 10:01 a.m. in Lutheran Hospital at Fort Wayne.

She was born Dec. 3, 1909, in Howard County to John Samuel Sommers and Clara Ellen Shank Sommers.

She grew up in the Kokomo-Greentown area, where she attended the Mennonite Church at Plevna.

She married Luther Workman in Goshen on March 30, 1929. He preceded her in death on Dec. 30, 1978.

Since 1989, Mrs. Workman had been a resident of Timbercrest Retirement Community in North Manchester, where she played bingo and was involved in the reading and exercise groups.

Mrs. Workman was a homemaker and assisted her husband with farm operations. She was a member of the West Manchester Church of the Brethren, Ladies Aide Group and the Home Extension Club, all in North Manchester. She enjoyed sewing, crocheting and lawn and garden work.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Ken and Norma Workman of Auburn; four daughters and three sons-in-law, Jane and Jerry Murphy of Butler, Bonnie Lauer of North Manchester, Janet and Richard Miller of North Manchester and Barbara and Jim Krichbaum of Chelsea, Mich.; a daughter-in-law, Peggy Workman of North Manchester; a sister, Lou Whitehead of Elkhart; 18 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one son, Richard Workman, on May 26, 1997, six brothers, four sisters and one grandson.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. in Timbercrest Chapel. Pastor Joan Deeter and the Rev. Kurt Stout will officiate. Burial will be in Pleasant Hill Cemetery at North Manchester.

Calling is Monday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Grandstaff-Hentgen Bender Chapel, 207 W. Main St., North Manchester, and Tuesday from 10-11 a.m. at Timbercrest Chapel.

Memorials are to the West Manchester Church of the Brethren Heifer Project or Timbercrest Church of the Brethren Home.

A memorial guestbook may be signed on-line at grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Gregory Voirol

TOLEDO, Ohio — Gregory Lee Voirol, 46, died Friday, June 27, 2003.

He was born in Garrett on May 24, 1957, to Gregory B. and Mary L. (Landers) Voirol.

He worked as a truck driver for 28 years at Norfolk and Southern.

He is survived by his father, Waterloo; two sons Adam Voirol and Josh Voirol, both of Auburn; one daughter, Chandra Voirol, Waterloo; two brothers, Joe Voirol, Angola, George Voirol, Angola; one sister, Tresa Bishop, Corunna; three grandchildren, Brandon Gerig, Alexis Voirol and Taylin Voirol.

He is preceded in death by his mother.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, with the Rev. David Snodderly officiating. Calling will be Tuesday, from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m.

Burial will be in Sedan Cemetery, Corunna.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Eunice Stienbarger

CHURUBUSCO — Eunice W. Stienbarger, 81, died Saturday, June 28, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She health had been declining for some time and had entered the hospital two weeks ago.

Mrs. Stienbarger was born in Smith Township in Whitley County on Oct. 21, 1921, to Jon I. and Fern (Brandon) Jones. She moved Churubusco as a young girl.

She married Merle F. Stienbarger in 1941. He survives.

She also is survived a son Dewayne M.; two sisters, Phyllis Geiger and Avonelle Stampe, both of Churubusco; two brothers, Robert and Roger Jones, both of Churubusco; two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday at Sheets & Child Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Paul D. White officiating. Calling will be from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. on Monday.

Burial will be in Riverview Cemetery in Churubusco.

Memorials are to the Churubusco Volunteer Fire Department.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 29 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Arthur Howell

COLLIER, Pa. — Arthur D. "Tubby" Howell, 65, died Friday, June 27, 2003, while surrounded by his loving and faithful family.

He was born April 1, 1938, in York Run, Pa., to Ralph T. and Veta Angeline Howell. They preceded him in death.

He is survived by his loving, devoted wife of 47 years, Rhea Lowden Howell, who gave him tender loving care and spiritual support through his very lengthy illness.

Also surviving are a two daughters and sons-in-law, Cindy and Dave Howe of Auburn and Connie and Brian Donaldson of Collier, Pa.; a daughter and her fiance, Renee Sroka and Shane Wheeler of Smithfield, Pa.; three sons and two daughters-in-law, Arthur "Gig" Howell Jr. and Shawn Howell of Oliver, Pa.; Timothy "Fuzz" and Brenda Howell of Fairchance, Pa.; 12 grandchildren, Corina of Auburn, Andy, Paul and Sara of Oliver, Pa., Jason, Justin, Maranda and Angela of Fairchance, Pa., Brian and Lee of Collier, Pa., Jodi, Mike and Shane Jr. of Smithfield, Pa.; two great-grandchildren, Michael of Fairchance, Pa., and Brendan of Smithfield, Pa.; a sister-in-law, Dixie Goble and her husband, Doyle, and family of Garrett; three brothers and two sisters-in-law, Thomas Howell of Connellsville, Pa., Amadee and Sandy Howell of Smithfield, Pa., and James G. Howell Sr. and Betty Howell of Smithfield, Pa.; a sister and brother-in-law, Olive and Chuck Johnson of North Ridgeville, Ohio; and a special cousin, Eugene Handschumaker of Collier, Pa.

He also was preceded in death by one brother, Aliverio Howell, and his father- and mother-in-law, James and Olive "Kate" Lowden.

Services will be Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. (Indiana time) in Ss. Cyril and Methodius Roman Catholic Church in Fairchance, Pa. The Rev. Father David Nazimek will officiate. Burial will be in Walnut Hill Cemetery at Uniontown, Pa.

Calling is Monday from 1-8 p.m. (Indiana time) in the Dean C. Whitmarsh Funeral Home, 134 W. Church St., Fairchance, Pa., and Tuesday until 8 a.m., when a prayer service will be held.

Memorials are to the family in care of the funeral home.

Wendell Parker

KENDALLVILLE — Wendell L. Parker, 56, died on Saturday, June 28, 2003, at Parkview Memorial Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was born on March 2, 1947 in Wayland, Ky., to Perry and Geneva (Ratliff) Parker. He married Patricia Bradley on Aug. 30, 1969 in Virginia. She survives.

He retired in 2000 from Auburn Foundry in Auburn.

He was preceded in death by two sisters.

He is survived a son Wendell, Avilla; four brothers Billy Tom Parker, Auburn, Jones David Parker, Waterloo, Rondal Parker, Wayland, Ky., and Austin Parker, Waterloo; three sisters, Jackie Caudill, Wayland, Ky., Sarah Moore, Kendallville, and Sally Gibson, Waterloo.

Graveside services will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at Christian Union Cemetery in Garrett. Burial will follow. There is no visitation. Send condolences or sign the online register book at www.hitefuneralhome.com

Arrangements by Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville.

Lucille Baker

KIMMELL — Lucille M. Baker, 82, died from natural causes at home.

She was born in Noble County on Jan. 22, 1921, to Paul W. and Maude (Kunce) Beezley.

She was a homemaker. She was a member of Broadway Christian Chapel where she was involved in Vacation Bible School.

She was a music lover, playing the piano, organ and accordion. She was an accompanist for the Broadway Quartet and music students at competitions. She enjoyed gardening, fishing, bird watching and wildlife. She was also accomplished at sewing.

She is survived by her husband Everett Baker, Kimmell; two daughters, Diana Brown, Cromwell, and Judy Wentworth, Kimmell; a sister Virginia Townsend, Tampa, Fla.; a half-sister, Jeanette Bockman, North Webster; a stepsister, Esther Henwood, Syracuse; grandchildren Jackie and Dana Brown, Wendy Sue Callahan and Josh Wentworth; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, William, Woody and Leroy Beezley; a half-brother, Bud Beezley; a stepbrother, John Baugher; and a step sister, Letha Koher.

Services will be 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, with the Rev. Lee Belleman officiating. Calling is Monday from 4-8 p.m. Burial will be in Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society or donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 29 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Marie Perkins

BUTLER — Marie L. Perkins, 68, died Thursday, June 26, 2003, at the home of her son, Douglas Perkins, with whom she resided.

Mrs. Perkins

Mrs. Perkins was born in Watertown, S.D., on Sept. 11, 1934.

With her husband, Bobby Ray Perkins, she moved to Rome City in 1969, where she worked out of her home preparing certified taxes. She also worked as a secretary at Electric Cordset in Wolcottville and was a state-certified emergency medical technician for the Rome City Ambulance. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Post 381.

She is survived by two daughters Debra Carreras, San Jose, Cali., and Bobbi Jo Hoose, Kendallville; two sons, Dwaine Shults, Owingsville, Ky. and Douglas Perkins, Butler; one foster son, Douglas Smith, Warsaw; one stepson Lewis Shults, Elgin, Ill,; three stepdaughters Nadine Woodard, Fulkaville, Ala., Charlene Perkins and Terri Lynn Perkins, Cali.; 16 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Surviving brothers are Clifford Dummer McDonald, Ariz., Wesley Dummer, Calif., Lloyd Dummer, Fla., Jim Dummer, Calif., Johnny Dummer, Wis., Billy Dummer, Wis.

Surviving are her two sisters LaVonne Walter, Ala. and Judy Abraham, Wis.

She was preceded in death by her husband and her parents, Albert and Alice Dummer.

Services will be Wednesday at Hutchins Funeral Home, Wolcottville, with Pastor Cova Perkins officiating. Calling will be Tuesday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. and Wednesday from 10-11 a.m.

American Legion Post will conduct a service on Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Burial will be in Orange Cemetery in Rome City.

Memorials are to the family.

Michael Porter

WAYSIDE, W.Va. — Michael Dale Porter, 54, formerly of Cromwell, died Wednesday, June 25, 2003, as a result of an automobile accident near Pipestem, W.Va..

He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.

He had a love for his dogs, horses and farm animals.

Mr. Porter was born on Jan. 2, 1949, the son of Charles H. and Majorie Mildred (Shockey) Porter, in Cabin Creek, W.Va. His mother survives in Ligonier.

Survivors also include his daughter, Angela Dawn Porter, and his son, Robert Dale Porter, both of Victorville, Calif.; two brothers, Charles Andrew Porter and James Randall Porter, all of Ligonier; three sisters, Betty Bailes of Charleston, W.Va., Karen Rollins of Ligonier and Pam Johnston of Cromwell; 10 nephews and nieces.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at the Dodd-Payne-Hess Funeral Home Chapel in Fayetteville, W.Va. Military rites will be conducted by Oak Hill VFW Post 3110 at the Pleasant View Cemetery, Fayetteville.

Carl Ross

FORT WAYNE — Carl "Red" Herron Ross, 94, died Friday June 27, 2003 at Heritage Park Nursing Home in Fort Wayne.

Before moving to Fort Wayne in 1996, Mr. Ross lived in Kendallville, from 1967-1996, and Avilla, from 1917 to 1967, working as an auto mechanic.

He owned and operated Ross Garage in Avilla and later worked for Parker Nivens, Jonny Roman and Max Platt, from where he retired in 1980.

In World War II he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps. In Avilla he worked at the fire department and joined Avilla Lodge 460 F&AM in 1942. He was a charter member of the Avilla Lions Club and was also a member of the American Legion Post 240 in Avilla.

He is survived by several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents, William R. and Carie Ross, one bother and two sisters.

Services will be Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, Avilla, with the Rev. Leonard King officiating. Calling will be Monday from 6-8 p.m. A Masonic service will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Avilla Cemetery.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 29 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Mrs. Firestone was loving wife, friend

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

COLDWATER, Mich. — Helen Firestone passed away having known what it was like to be truly adored.

"I loved her so much it just about drove me out of my mind," said her husband, Floyd, to whom she had been married since Nov. 27, 1965.

Former Angola resident Helen E. Firestone, 86, died Monday, June 23, at the Community Health Center of Branch County in Coldwater after she had battled heart problems for several years. She was a native of Angola, and was the daughter of Charly H. and Maude M. (Harmon) Hellinger.

Both Helen and Floyd had been married before. They had 10 children between them.

"She had five kids and I had five kids," Floyd said. "She loved the kids. She was a very good mother."

Mrs. Firestone worked a variety of jobs outside the home, making friends wherever she was employed, Floyd said. She was manager of the E & L Motel in Fremont, and was a housekeeper at the Potawatomi Inn on Lake James.

"She was a friend to everyone she met. She had a lot of friends," Floyd said. "She loved everybody."

Her faith was important to Mrs. Firestone. She was a member of Jamestown Community Church at Lake George and the church's Ladies Aid.

Floyd said his wife was one-of-a-kind.

"Everything was important to her, I'd say," he said, "We liked to travel, and we had a good life together. I miss her."

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
30

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct errors.

Marie Perkins

BUTLER — Marie L. Perkins, 68, died Thursday, June 26, 2003, at the home of her son, Douglas Perkins, with whom she resided. She had been ill since 1997.

Mrs. Perkins was born in Watertown, S.D., on Sept. 11, 1934, to Albert and Alice (Paso) Schmidt Dummer. In September 1966, she married Bobby Ray Perkins. He died in October 1991.

Mrs. Perkins

The couple moved to Rome City in 1969, where she worked out of her home preparing certified taxes. She also worked as a secretary at Electric Cordset in Wolcottville and was a state-certified emergency medical technician for the Rome City ambulance service. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Post 381.

She is survived by two daughters, Debra and Daniel Carreras Sr. of San Rafael, Calif., and Bobbi Jo Hooser of Kendallville; two sons and daughters-in-law, Dwaine and Iva Shults of Owingsville, Ky., and Douglas and Dawn Perkins of Butler; a foster son, Douglas Smith of Warsaw; a stepson and his wife, Lewis "Butch" and Rita Shults of Elgin, Ill.; three stepdaughters and their spouses, Nadine and Bill Woodard of Fulkaville, Ala., Charlene Perkins of Illinois and Terri Lynn Perkins of California; 16 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Also surviving are seven brothers, Clifford Dummer McDonald of Arizona, Wesley Dummer of California, Lloyd Dummer of Florida, Jim Dummer of California, Johnny Dummer of Wisconsin, Billy Dummer of Wisconsin, and Eugene Dummer of Illinois; and two sisters, LaVonne "Bonnie" Walter of Alabama and Judy Abraham of Wisconsin.

She was preceded in death by her husband and her parents, Albert and Alice Dummer.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home, Wolcottville, with Pastor Cova Perkins officiating. Burial will be in Orange Cemetery in Rome City.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. and Wednesday from 10-11 a.m.

American Legion Auxiliary of Post 381 will conduct a service on Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

The following obituary is being reprinted to correct errors.

Edwin Miller

QUINCY, Mich. — Edwin L. Miller, 92, died Saturday, June 28, 2003, at The Laurels of Coldwater in Coldwater, Mich.

Mr. Miller was born Dec. 18, 1910, in Sylvania, Ohio, to Charles and Mamie Miller, and graduated from Coldwater High School in 1929. In high school, he was a football player.

He owned the Montgomery Egg Co. for 10 years, and belonged to the Kinderhook, Mich. Masonic Lodge.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Charles and Judy Miller of Montgomery, Mich.; a sister and brother-in-law, Isabelle and Norman Perry of Reading, Mich.; a brother, Robert N. Miller of Montgomery; a friend, Elise Wright; five grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary C. (Dickenson) Miller; a daughter, Mary Ann Miller; two brothers; and a sister.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at George White Funeral Home, Quincy. Calling will be Tuesday from 3 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., with a Masonic service of remembrance at 8 p.m.

Burial will be in California Corners Cemetery, [illegible] Township, Mich.

THE NEWS SUN
JUNE 30 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Eunice Stienbarger

CHURUBUSCO — Eunice W. Stienbarger, 81, of rural Churubusco in Allen County, died Saturday, June 28, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Her health had been declining for some time. She entered the hospital two weeks ago.

Mrs. Stienbarger was born in Smith Township in Whitley County on Oct. 21, 1921, to John I. and Fern (Brandon) Jones. She moved to Eel River Township east of Churubusco as a young girl. She was educated in the Huntertown schools.

Mrs. Stienbarger

She married Merle F. Stienbarger in 1941 in Columbia City. He survives. The couple spent all of their married lives in the Churubusco area, and were in their present home for more than 50 years.

Mrs. Stienbarger was a 31-year employee of General Electric in Fort Wayne, retiring from there in 1977.

She also is survived by a son and a daughter-in-law, Dewayne M. and Helen Stienbarger of Churubusco; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Phyllis Geiger, and Avonelle and Roger Stampe, all of Churubusco; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Robert and Nancy Jones, and Roger and Mary Jones, all of Churubusco; two grandchildren and their spouses, Lanette and Kregg Jones of Churubusco, and Bill and Chris Stienbarger of Fort Wayne; and three great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. on Tuesday at Sheets & Child Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Paul D. White officiating. Burial will be in Riverview Cemetery in Churubusco.

Calling will be from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. today.

Burial will be in Riverview Cemetery in Churubusco.

Memorials are to the Churubusco Volunteer Fire Department.

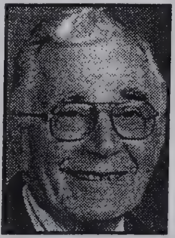
THE NEWS SUN
JULY 1 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Dwight Trumbull

LAOTTO — Dwight D. Trumbull, 80, died Monday, June 30, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana, Fort Wayne.

A resident of LaOtto since 1956, he had retired from Dana Corp. in Fort Wayne in 1980. He had formerly worked at Happy Valley Roller Rink and Lane Foundry.

Mr. Trumbull was a 1940 graduate of Churubusco High School and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of LaOtto Wesleyan Church and enjoyed walking.


Mr. Trumbull

He was born in Green Township, Noble County, on Aug. 12, 1922, to John P. and Alta F. (Windle) Trumbull. On Aug. 26, 1951, he married Doris L. Evans in Columbia City. She died on May 5.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Dean and Brenda Trumbull of Churubusco; a daughter and son-in-law, Darlene and Rexx Guthrie of Pierceton; two sisters and a brother-in-law, June Hults of Churubusco and Janice and Dick Rapp of Churubusco; and five grandchildren, Chelsea, Abigail and Eric Trumbull, all of Churubusco, and S. Electra and Roxanne Guthrie of Pierceton.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Orr Funeral Home in Churubusco, with Pastor Lois Watkins officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

Calling will be Wednesday from 4-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Hospice of Whitley County or the Gideons.

William Helblig

WARSAW — William Helblig, 61, died Sunday, June 29, 2003, at 11:50 a.m. in Kosciusko Community Hospital.

Mr. Helblig

Mr. Helblig had recently moved to Warsaw after living in Tennessee three years. A U.S. Army veteran, he would have retired soon from the Rutherford County Educator System in Tennessee.

He was born Aug. 25, 1941, in Fort Wayne to Bert E. and Lova (Bashor) Helblig. On Oct. 17, 1986, he married Mara Goodman. She survives.

Also surviving are four daughters and sons-in-law, Denise and Donnie Jackson, Lauretta and Todd Shoemaker and Victoria and Charles Collins, all of Warsaw, and Patti and Chuck Leitherland of Colon, Mich.; three sons, William E. Helblig Jr. of Sidney, Ind., Randy B. Helblig of Ligonier, and Roderick Blankenship of Milford; a brother, John Helblig of Huntington; four sisters, Judy McBride of Fort Wayne, Cherryl Sexton of Murphysboro, Tenn., and Edna Mae Myers and Roberta Reynolds, both of Columbia City; 31 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by a brother and two sisters.

Services will be Saturday at 10 a.m. at Titus Funeral Home, with Pastor Chad Burkhart officiating. Military graveside services will follow at Oakwood Cemetery.

Calling will be Friday from 2-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Services Held

AVILLA — Services for **Bernard "Bud" Meyer** were held Friday at St. Mary's Catholic Church with Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Burial was in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Paul Shepherd, Logan Meyer, Brett Meyer, Aaron Meyer, Adam Harlan, Zach Meyer and Bruce Carteaux.

Brazzell Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

AVILLA — Services for **Michael Resak** were held Saturday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home with the Rev. Rick VanCleave officiating.

Pallbearers were Jim Stults, Charles Irvin, Mark Doane, Tom Jarthermer and Mike Stucky.

KENDALLVILLE — Funeral services for **Ilo M. Davis** were held Friday at Hite Funeral Home with the Rev. Paul Griebel officiating. Burial was in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Jim Montel, Jeremy Montel, Bill Hindenlang, Brandon Hindenlang, John Baker, James Swartz, Kraig Swartz and Justin Cummins.

Honorary pallbearers were Dennis Ford, Laurell Ford, Jim Lavandoski and David Swartz.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 2 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Charles Voors

FORT WAYNE — Charles L. Voors, 82, died Monday, June 30, 2003.

He was born April 25, 1921, in Fort Wayne and retired in 1982 as supervisor of the Group Department at Lincoln Life Insurance Co. He was previously with the FBI in Washington and served in Naval intelligence during World War II.

Mr. Voors was a member of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Knights of Columbus 451, Human Ecology Action League and Cursillo.

Surviving are his wife, Mary E.; two daughters, Mary R. Voors of Fort Wayne and Susan E. Jesse of St. Johns, Mich.; five sons, the Rev. Father David Voors, William Voors and Charles Voors, all of Fort Wayne, Robert Voors of Albion, and Jerry Voors of Muskego, Wis.; and 12 grandchildren.

Services will be at noon Thursday at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church. Burial is at Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8:30 p.m. today at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, and one hour before services Thursday at the church.

Memorials are to Masses or the Alzheimer's Support Group.

Maurice Stafford

WATERLOO — Maurice E. "Gene" Stafford, 77, died Tuesday, July 1, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn.

Mr. Stafford worked as a printer for Waterloo Printing. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. He was a member of the Waterloo Lions Club, the Waterloo post of Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Post 97 in Auburn, the DeKalb County Merit Board and the Masonic Lodge.

He was born Aug. 8, 1925, in Auburn to Frank and Dora (Shields) Stafford. They preceded him in death.

He married Annabelle Donaldson on April 21, 1946, in Auburn. She died June 5, 2000.

Surviving are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Rick of Goshen, Reggie and Susanne of Story Lake and Mike and Cindy of Auburn; one daughter, Karen Badman of Kendallville; two brothers, Bob of Auburn and Walter of Fort Wayne; one sister, Ruth Lee of New Haven; eight grandchildren and 11 grandchildren.

One son, Randy, preceded him in death.

Services will be held at a later date.

Feller Funeral Home of Waterloo is in charge of arrangements.

Services Held

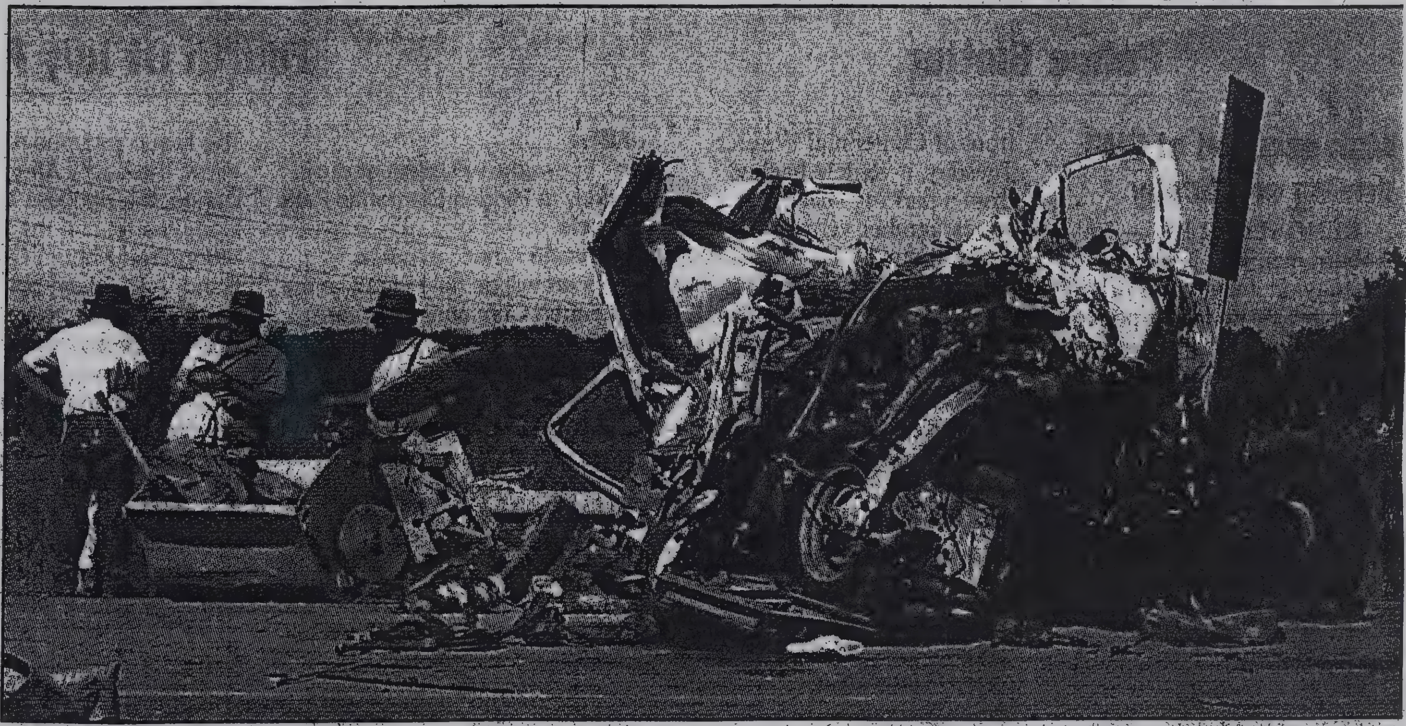
KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Wendell L. Parker** were held Monday at 11 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home with the Rev. Billy Ray Tuttle officiating.

Burial was in Christian Union Cemetery, Garrett.

Pallbearers were James Ratliff, Curtis Parker, Terry Parker, Chrles Parker, Arthur Gibson, and Emmett Bennett.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 2 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Crash claims 3 teens



AP

Bystanders gather at the scene of a fatal crash Tuesday just west of Topeka. A pickup truck slammed into a semi hauling lumber, killing three teenagers in the pickup and injuring a bystander who was hit by falling boards, police said.

Next page ~

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 2 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

continued from pg 429

BY JULIANA CASILLAS
newssun@ligtel.com

TOPEKA — A four-vehicle crash Tuesday morning on S.R. 5 left three teenagers from Goshen dead and a Topeka woman injured.

Seventeen-year-old Phillip J. Hoogenboom, who was driving, and 19-year-old Christopher F. Bryant received severe head injuries and were pronounced dead at the scene, while 17-year-old Tyler S. Joldersma was airlifted to Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne and died at approximately 11:30 a.m. from head and internal injuries, police said. Their pickup, eastbound on C.R. 600S, apparently ran a stop sign at S.R. 5 and collided with a southbound semi carrying lumber.

Also injured was Carolyn Yoder, 65, of Topeka, a pedestrian walking along S.R. 5. She received a broken femur, and suffered chest pains and contusions, police said. She was struck by lumber that fell from a semi involved in the crash.

Yoder was south of the crash scene on the west side of S.R. 5 and saw the crash as it occurred, but was unable to avoid the falling lumber.

The semi driver, Kevin James VosBurgh, 48, of Union, Mich., was not injured.

The impact of Hoogenboom's vehicle, a 1995 Ford pickup, with the semi caused the semi's trailer to go left of center, colliding with the left front of a northbound 1995 Chevrolet van driven by Sherman C. Shrock, 41, of Ligonier. Shrock's vehicle was also struck by debris from the accident.

Police said none of the teens was wearing a seat belt in the truck. Bryant was in the middle front of the vehicle, while Joldersma was seated in the right passenger side of the vehicle.

SEE **CRASH**, PAGE A8

CRASH: *Lumber falling from trailer hit passing vehicle*

FROM PAGE A1

According to the LaGrange County Sheriff's Department, the collision took place at about 6:30 a.m. After the truck struck the semi, the semi then collided with Shrock's vehicle and continued sliding south on S.R. 5, with some of the lumber falling off the trailer into the northbound lane of the highway. The trailer then hit a 1997 Mercury Marquis driven by Daniel M. Dahms, 35, of Topeka, which was northbound behind Shrock's vehicle. Dahms was not injured, according to police.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 2 2003
ALBION, INDIANA

Lucille Baker

KIMMELL – Lucille M. Baker, 82, died in her home of natural causes, on Friday, June 27, 2003.

Born in Noble County on January 22, 1921, she was a daughter of Paul W. and Maude (Kunce) Beezley.

She was married to Everett P. Baker on May 7, 1939, in Michigan.

She was a lifetime area resident and a homemaker. She was a musician, playing piano, organ and accordion; and was an accompanist for the Broadway Quartet and music students at competitions. She enjoyed gardening, fishing, bird watching and wildlife. She was also accomplished at sewing and shared this ability by making items for the area nursing home residents. Additionally, each year at Christmas time, she would fill a box of goodies for the residents. Her home was always open to family and friends.

She was a member of Broadway Christian Chapel, where she was involved in vacation bible school.

Surviving are her husband, Everett in Kimmell; daughters and sons-in-law, Diana and Danny Brown of Cromwell, and Judy and Ron Wentworth from Kimmell; sister Virginia Townsend of Tampa, FL; half-sister, Jeanette Bockman from North Webster; step-sister, Esther Henwood of Syracuse; grandchildren, Jackie Brown, Dana Brown, Wendy Sue Callahan and Josh Wentworth; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, William, Woody, and Leroy Beezley; a half-brother, Bud Beezley; a step-brother, John Baugher; and a step-sister, Letha Koher.

Services were held Tuesday, July 1, 2003, at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home in Ligonier with Rev. Lee Belleman officiating. Burial was in Sparta Cemetery in Kimmell.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society or donor's choice.

Home Health and Hospice.

Wanetta Cook

ROME CITY – Wanetta Cook, 92, died Tuesday, June 24, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

She was a lifetime area resident. She retired as the only licensed female well driller in the northeastern United States, working with E. Cook & Son Well Drilling. She was a member of Brimfield United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women.

She was born in Grabill June 15, 1911, to Jonas and Anna Edith (Leeth) Brown.

She married Emmanuel Clarence Cook March 18, 1929. He died May 20, 1973.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Ernest and Janet Cook of Wawaka; eight daughters and three sons-in-law, Edith Sprandel of Kendallville, Inez and Charles Mynhier of Wawaka, Patsy Adams of Rome City, Carolyn DePew of Ligonier, Geraldine Witham of Rome City, Sandra Kelley of Vandalia, MI, Ruth and Paul Rupert of Ligonier, and Beverly and Timothy Oesch of Topeka; 30 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

One sister, Phyllis Raper, preceded her in death.

Services were held Friday, June 27, 2003, at Hutchins Funeral Home in Wolcottville, with the Rev. Mike Neff of Brimfield United Methodist Church officiating. Burial was in Orange Cemetery in Rome City.

Memorials are to the Brimfield United Methodist Church or Parkview Home Health & Hospice.

Michael Resak

CROMWELL – Michael F. Resak, 71, died Wednesday, June 25, 2003, at Parkview Whitley Hospital in Columbia City.

He was born in Johnson City, NY, on March 29, 1932, to Michael and Anna Resak.

He was married to Nancy Schesky on November 24, 1990; she survives.

He lived in Noble County for 31 years, coming from Fort Wayne.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran and a technician for General Telephone for 25 years before retiring in 1991.

He was a member of the Albion Eagles Lodge #2455, Eagles Past State, Eagles Past District Director, GTE Retired Employees, and Englewood Methodist Church, Englewood, FL.

He is survived by one daughter, Ann Kreger of Larwill; three step-daughters, Julia Stucky of Fort Wayne, Sheila Doane from Grand Rapids, MI and Jennifer Jaxtheimer of Fort Wayne; one step-son, Chuck Irvin from Fort Wayne; and 13 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Barbara North. They were married August 23, 1964. She died May 31, 1989. Also preceding him in death were his parents, Michael and Anna; and a sister, Anna.

Services were held Saturday, June 28, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion, with the Rev. Van Cleave officiating.

For those who wish, memorials are to the donor's choice.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 2 2003 ALBION, INDIANA

Bernard Meyer

AVILLA – Bernard L. "Bud" Meyer, 74, died Tuesday, June 24, 2003, at home.

He was a tool grinder for Zollner Corp. in Fort Wayne for 31 years. He was a lifelong resident of Avilla. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and a member of American Legion Post 240 in Avilla.

He was born in Avilla December 6, 1928, to William and Gertrude (Snider) Meyer.

He married Alice H. Teders June 12, 1954, in Avilla. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Susan L. and Joseph Litchfield of Avilla and Sandra L. and Jeffery Harlan of Fort Wayne; four sons and daughters-in-law, Daniel B. and Judy Meyer of LaOtto, Edward J. and Darla Meyer of Kendallville, Carey H and Tami Meyer of Fort Wayne and Kurt F. and Malinda Meyer of Avilla; a special friend, Paul Shepherd of Avilla; 24 grandchildren, Emily, Adam, Alison, Brett, Samantha, Aaron, Danielle, Audrey, Elizabeth, Zachary, Abigail, Logan, Joshua, Ryan, Stacey, Lindsay, Maria, Phillip, Sarah, Brooke, Noah, Jennifer, Nicholas and Matthew; three sisters, Agnes Tilbury of Fort Wayne and Sister Marie Meyer and Bernadette Teders, both of Avilla; and two brothers, Edward and Francis Meyer, both of Avilla.

Preceding him in death were three sisters, Evelyn Freeman, Wilma Schmenk and Mildred Fischer; and two brothers, Robert and Herman Meyer.

Services were held Friday, June 27, 2003, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla, with Father Daniel Durkin officiating. Burial was in St. Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery.

Memorials are to St. Mary's Catholic School or to Masses at the church.

Ellen Tomlinson

FORT WAYNE – Ellen B. Tomlinson, 64, died Friday, June 27, 2003, at Northwest Memorial Hospital, Chicago.

Born March 25, 1939, in Fort Wayne, she was employed as an Assembly Technician with (Bowmar) White Electronics Design. She was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in New Haven, the Women's Bowling Association, Eagles Lodge 3164, American Legion Post 330, New Haven, and Goldwing Road Riders Association Chapter D2.

Surviving are her husband, James Tomlinson of Fort Wayne; sons, Walter Herendeen, Jr. of Angola, John Herendeen of Fort Wayne; stepson, Robert L. Tomlinson of Albion; stepdaughters, Debra M. Dellinger of Columbia City and Michelle L. Mawhorter of Albion; a brother, David J. Genda of Fort Wayne; a sister, Sharon L. Johnston of Ossian; 13 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Tammy Teresa Herendeen, and a sister, Rose Genda.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday, July 2, 2003, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in New Haven. Burial was at Catholic Cemetery.

For those who wish, memorials are to Indiana Organ Procurement Organization.

Eunice Stienbarger

CHURUBUSCO – Eunice W. Stienbarger, 81, of rural Churubusco, in Allen County, died Saturday, June 28, 2003, at St Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Her health had been declining for some time. She entered the hospital two weeks ago.

Mrs. Stienbarger was born in Smith Township in Whitley County on October 21, 1921, to John I. and Fern (Brandon) Jones. She moved to Eel River Township east of Churubusco as a young girl. She was educated in the Huntertown schools.

She married Merle F. Stienbarger in 1941 in Columbia City. He survives. The couple spent all of their married lives in the Churubusco area and were in their present home for more than 50 years.

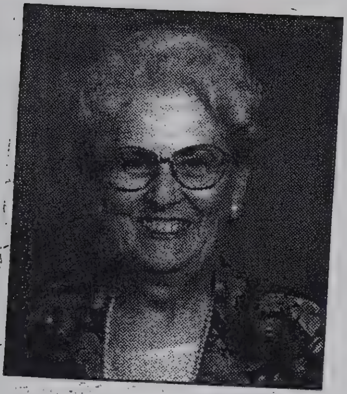
Mrs Stienbarger was a 31 year employee of General Electric in Fort Wayne, retiring from there in 1977.

She is also survived by a son and a daughter-in-law, Dewayne M. and Helen Stienbarger of Churubusco; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Phyllis Geiger, and Avonelle and Roger Stampe, all of Churubusco; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Robert and Nancy Jones and Roger and Mary Jones, all of Churubusco; two grandchildren and their spouses, Lanette and Kregg Jones of Churubusco, and Bill and Chris Stienbarger of Fort Wayne; and three great-grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday, July 1, 2003, at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Paul D. White officiating. Burial was in the Riverview Cemetery in Churubusco.

Memorials are to the Churubusco Volunteer Fire Department.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 2 2003 ALBION, INDIANA



Betty Goodrich

WOLF LAKE – Betty L. Goodrich, 71, a resident of Wolf Lake, died Wednesday, June 25, 2003, at her home. She had been in failing health.

She was born September 19, 1931, in Whitley County, Indiana, a daughter of Clinton and Lucile (Brown) Bohnstedt. Her formative years were spent in the Larwill area. She graduated from Larwill High School.

On April 12, 1952, she was united in marriage to Phillip D. Goodrich. The made their home in Whitley County for eight years and moved to their present home in Wolf Lake in March 1960.

Betty Goodrich

She was the clerk for Noble Township Trustee, her husband, for 16 years. She then worked in the offices of the Noble County Recorder, Auditor and Treasurer for 14 years.

She attended Wolf Lake Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Phillip D.; three sons, Kerry (Robin) Goodrich of High Lake, Mark (Tammy) Goodrich of Bear Lake and James (Patricia) Goodrich of Mooresville; five grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; two step-great-grandchildren; two brothers, Gene Bohnstedt of Churubusco and Richard Bohnstedt of Milford; and three sisters, Bonnie Michael of Philadelphia, PA, Colleen Ward of Fort Wayne; and Carol Thomas of West Branch, Iowa.

Services were held Sunday, June 29, 2003, at Smith and Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City, with Pastor Dan Carlson and Deaconess Karen Kosberg officiating. The burial was in Thorn Cemetery, Ormas.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to Muscular Dystrophy Association-A.L.S. or Whitley Branch of Parkview Home Health and Hospice.

Paul Hittle

ALBION – Paul A. Hittle, 59, of Albion, formerly of the Lowell, IN area, passed away on Sunday, June 22, 2003.

Paul worked as a counselor at Chain O'Lakes State Youth Camp in Albion.

He is survived by his wife, Janice; one son, Dan (Sharon) Hittle of Lombard, IL; one daughter, Arlene Hittle of Flagstaff, AZ; one sister, Ethel (Marvin) Guernsey of Portage, IN; two brothers, Philip Hittle of Lake Village, IN; and David Hittle of Salt Lake City, Utah.

Funeral services were held Friday, June 27, 2003, at Sheets Funeral Home in Lowell.

Burial was at Plum Grove Cemetery in Lowell.

Angela Adams

ROME CITY – Angela Adams, 24, of Rome City was born on January 9, 1978, in San Jose, CA, to Robert M. Mahar and Diana Sue Meroney.

She is survived by her mother, Diana Meroney of Albion; her father, Robert Mahar of New York; two daughters, Chelsie Dawn and Erica Lee Adams, both of Rome City; one son, Dominic Trey Adams of Rome City; fiancé, Shane Terry from Ligonier; half-brother, Joey Treesh; half-sister, Michelle Treesh of Kendallville; two uncles, Leland R. and (Janet) Meroney of Albion, and Randy and (Peggy) Marks from Wolcottville; aunt, Norma and (Randy) Miller of Albion; cousins, Christopher and Alyssa Marks and Jake Phillips, all from Albion, Daniel, Jamie, Hannah and Ethan Kuhn from Gilbert Lake.

She was preceded in death by a grandmother, Margaret Boarders; a grandfather, Leland Meroney, Sr.; an uncle, John Wayne Meroney; and a cousin, Randi Sue Marks.

Memorial services were held Sunday, June 29, 2003, at the Cornerstone Wesleyan Church of Merriam, with Pastor George Cecil officiating. Burial took place in Merriam Christian Chapel Cemetery.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to the family.

Carl (Red) Ross

AVILLA – Carl (Red) Herron Ross, 94, died Friday, June 27, 2003, at Heritage Park Nursing Home in Fort Wayne.

He was born March 31, 1909, to William R. and Carrie (Freeman) Ross in Star City, IN.

He lived in Avilla from 1917 to 1967, Kendallville from 1967 to 1996 and then moved to Fort Wayne.

Mr. Ross was the former owner and operator of Ross Garage in Avilla, a mechanic for Parker Nivens, Jonny Roman and retired from Max Platt in 1980.

He was a WW II veteran. He was a member of WW II Army-Air Corp., Avilla Fire Dept., Avilla Lodge 460 F&AM since 1942. Also, the American Legion Post 240 in Avilla, and a charter member of the Avilla Lions Club.

He is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his parents, William and Carrie; one brother; and two sisters.

Services were held Tuesday, July 1, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla with the Rev. Dr. Leonard King officiating. Masonic services were held Monday evening at the funeral home. Burial was in Avilla Cemetery.

Ethel M. Ireton

OSSIAN – Ethel M. Ireton, 95, of Ossian, died Monday, June 30, 2003, at Ossian Health & Rehabilitation Center.

Born November 16, 1907, in Roanoke, she was co-owner of Leland's Bakery for many years, retiring in 1962, and a member of Calvary United Methodist Church.

Surviving are her husband, Theodore R Ireton of Ossian; a son, Garlan (Juanita) Boyd of Ossian; a daughter, Betty McGrath of Ossian; sister, Mary Etus Conrad of Albion; seven grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, July 3, 2003, at Covington Memorial Funeral Home, 8408 Covington Road, with visitation from 4 to 8 p.m, Wednesday. Burial will be at Covington Memorial Gardens.

Memorials are to Hospice of Berne, Ossian Nursing Home or Calvary United Methodist Church.

There are no pages

435
436
437
438

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 3 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Services Held

WOLCOTTVILLE — Services for **Marie L. Perkins** were held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home with Pastor Cova Perkins officiating. Burial was in Orange Cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers were Amber Perkins, Ashley Oliver, Cody Hooser, Skyler Gravit, Stephanie Grigsby and Niki Aguilar.

Active pallbearers were Jeremiah Shults, Brandon Pant, Brandon Perkins, Corey Perkins, Josh Shults, Jason Shults, Charles Meyer III, Jonathon Smith, Doug Smith Jr., Dean Smith, Robby Meyer and Patrick Oliver.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 6 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Mrs. Cook could 'ride like the wind' — and drill wells, too

BY DENNIS NARTKER
dennisn@kpcnews.net

ROME CITY — In Wanetta Cook's lifetime, she did more, experienced more and worked harder than any 10 mortals, according to her daughter Edith Sprandel.

Mrs. Cook, of Rome City, died June 24 at the age of 92. She was a retired well driller for E. Cook & Son Well Drilling, and the only woman well driller licensed in northeastern Indiana.

She lived life to the fullest.

When Cook was a young girl, she bred, raised and trained riding horses.

"She could ride like the wind," said Sprandel.

She married at age 18. She wanted 12 children. She had nine, then enjoyed 30 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

While her husband, Emmanuel, who preceded her in death on May 20, 1973, worked part-time on the family farm and full-time as a molder at Flint & Walling in Kendallville, Mrs. Cook managed the house and farm.

"She tilled the truck patch and garden with a plow and our horse Babe. She milked the cows and sold the milk and cream. She raised the chickens, beef cattle and pigs, and butchered them all for our meat," remembered Sprandel.

Mrs. Cook canned and froze the garden produce and baked pies, cakes, cookies and hot rolls for the family meals.

"This sounds like any farm woman in the 1930s and 1940s, but our mother was something more," said Sprandel. "There was nothing Mom couldn't do or wouldn't tackle."

Wedding cakes for her daughters? Mrs. Cook baked them. Wedding gowns, Halloween costumes, even a special dress for a school event? Mrs. Cook made them.

She made and sold noodles from the farm, and for many years made all the noodles for the Brimfield United Methodist Church booth at the Noble County Community Fair and the Apple Festival of Kendallville.

In the 1950s Sprandel recalls the family farm needed a new well. Cook and her husband drilled their first well, and then went into the well-drilling business together.

Cook carried on with the business after her husband died of lung cancer at age 65.

"She was drilling wells alone when she was in her 60s," said Sprandel. "All this time she was meeting the needs of nine children."

In a story in the Sept. 13, 1957, edition of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel that featured Cook and her husband, Ken Weaver asked Cook if she enjoyed drilling wells. She replied, "I love it. I sure do. I've heard a lot of well men say it gets in your blood, and I sure think it does."

Mrs. Cook always welcomed relatives to her home.

"I can't recall a time when there wasn't a grandchild, cousin, aunt or friend staying with us or joining in family activities," said Sprandel.

She found time to serve on Brimfield's election board for many years.

Mrs. Cook wasn't a saint, though, according to her daughter.

"She had an iron will, a stubborn streak to shame a mule, and a temper."

Sprandel remembers joining her sisters and brothers in the game of "I didn't do it. She did, he did." Her mother paddled them all saying, "I'm sure to get the right one."

Despite her temper, she was a strong, faithful Christian, active in the Brimfield United Methodist Church, and had a strong singing voice. She taught her children to sing and participate in the church choir.

Sprandel remembers asking her mother once how she could stay up high on a well-drilling derrick without getting sick. Her mother told her, "It's a lot like living a Christian life. You fix your eye on the one strong, still thing, and you never look away. It helps if you don't look down, too."

THE NEWS SUN
Kendallville, Indiana
JULY 6 2003

Jessie Valentine

DUNKIRK — Jessie Valentine, 87, died Saturday, July 5, 2003, at Albany Health Care & Rehabilitation Center.

She was born Oct. 13, 1915, in Russ, Mo., to Charlie and Hulda Goans.

Valentine, who spent over 40 years in Dunkirk before moving to Albany, retired in 1975 from Kerr Glass, now St. Gobain, where she worked for over 30 years.

Surviving are a son, Don Valentine from Albany; two daughters, Sue Habig of Auburn and Betty Edwards of Bloomfield; nine grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-granchildren.

Preceding her in death were a son, Jearld Lee Valentine, four brothers, and seven sisters.

Private family services will be conducted with burial following at Strong Cemetery in Albany.

Memorials are to Cancer Services of Delaware County, Little Red Door, 401 W. Jackson St., Muncie, IN 47305.

Condolences may be e-mailed to ParsonRust@aol.com

Arrangements are by Parson-Rust Funeral Home.

Lyndon Schwartz

GOSHEN — Infant Lyndon Jay Schwartz, died Friday, July 4, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital.

He was the son of Steven J. and Marla R. (Wingard) Schwartz of Goshen.

His grandparents are David and Velda Wingard of Shipshewana and David and Mary Lou Schwartz of Goshen.

Services will be at 2 p.m. today at the graveside followed by burial at South East Clinton Cemetery in Goshen. Officiating will be Bishop Perry Miller of the Old Order Amish Church.

Pallbearers will be the infant's uncles, Jerry Schwartz and Lamar Wingard.

Roy Collins

FORT WAYNE — Roy Calvin Collins, 85, died Tuesday, July 1, 2003, in Regency Place Nursing Home.

Mr. Collins moved from Arizona to Angola in 1949. He had a career in sales for Weatherhead Co., retiring after 26 years in 1974.

Mr. Collins

He had lived in Frankfort, Ky., since the late 1970s until illness brought him back to Indiana in June 2003.

He was born Nov. 11, 1917, in Winchester to Alva Lee Collins and Nellie Blanche (Freeman) Collins.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Patricia Louise and Howard Thomas of Auburn, Catherine Sue and Christopher Mecke of Ivins, Utah, and Carol Jean Klein of Hudson, Fla.; a sister, Treva May Lykins of Bonita Springs, Fla.; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren as well as nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Percy, Richard, Robert and Ervin; his first wife, Catherine Eva Edwards, in 1976; his second wife, Charlotte Anne Kinney, in 1994; two sons, Max Robert "Sunny" Scott Collins and Roy Calvin Collins Jr.; and a stepdaughter, Shirley Anne Scott Weaver.

A private family celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Burial will be at Sunset Memory Gardens in Frankfort, Ky. The Northeast Indiana Cremation Society is in charge of arrangements.

June DeVolder

ANGOLA — June A. DeVolder, 84, died Saturday, July 5, 2003, at Laurels of DeKalb in Butler.

She was born Feb. 22, 1919, in Rural Steuben County to Clyde and Flossie (Salander) Pocock.

She married Donald DeVolder on Aug. 25, 1941. He preceded her in death in 1997.

Mrs. DeVolder was a homemaker, mom and loan officer for the Elkhart Bank. She was a member of the Lake Gage Congregational Church and the Nevada Mills Methodist Church.

Surviving are two sons, Joe DeVolder of Elmira and Martin DeVolder of Kingsley, Mich.; two daughters, Marie Nichols of Angola and Suzanne Ratcliff of Mineral Wells, Texas; 15 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her parents; her husband; one daughter, Judith K. Nutt; two brothers, Carl and Louie Pocock; two sisters, Fern Roose and Cleo Dannenburg.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Lake Gage Congregational Church.

Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola, with the Rev. Stephen Altman officiating.

Burial will be at Greenlawn Cemetery in Orland.

Memorials are to Lake Gage Congregational Church.

Arrangements are by Weicht Funeral Home in Angola.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 6 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Howard S. Grimm Jr.

FORT WAYNE — Howard S. Grimm Jr., 76, of Fort Wayne, died Saturday, June 21, 2003, at his residence.

He was born April 20, 1927, in Auburn, the son of Howard S. Grimm and Mary Louise Grimm.

An attorney in northeast Indiana for 48 years and a retired public defender of LaGrange County, he obtained his bachelor of science and juris doctorate from Indiana University. He was a member of the Indiana Bar Association and former member of the Allen County Bar Association.

Surviving are his wife, Rebecca A. Overton-Grimm; son, Marc R. Grimm of Bel Aire, Md.; daughter, Adrienne Housman of Woodburn; stepdaughter, Whitney C. Redden of Fort Wayne; stepsons, Patrick G. Redden, Chad A. Redden, and Christopher T. Redden, all of Fort Wayne; brothers, Lloyd R. Grimm of Columbus, and John C. Grimm and James L. Grimm, both of Auburn; four grandchildren and three stepgrandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Edgar Grimm; and his sister, Helen J. Grimm-Norment.

A celebration of life service will be 7 p.m. Wednesday at Sears Pavilion, 1701 Bluffton Road, where family will receive friends with a reception following the service.

Visitation will be from 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Sears Pavilion. Memorials may be made to Visiting Nurse Service & Hospice Inc.

Arrangements by Northeast Indiana Cremation Society.

Coralie Miller

AVILLA — Coralie M. Miller, 58, died Friday, July 4, 2003, at 5:05 p.m. at the Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She had lived in the area for three years, coming from Bloomington, Ill.

Miller was born Aug. 13, 1944, in Bloomington, Ill., to Howard M. and Nellie R. (Byrd) Pearson. She married Gary W. Miller on May 29, 1965, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Bloomington.

A homemaker, Miller was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Bloomington, a member of the American Legion Post 281 Ladies Auxiliary in Bloomington, and a member of Emblem Club of the Elks Lodge 281 in Bloomington. She enjoyed ceramics, bowling, and horseback riding.

Surviving are her husband; one son, Anthony Robert Miller of Bloomington; one brother, H. Robert Pearson of Bloomington; one granddaughter, Taylor Anonette Miller of Bloomington.

Services will be at a later date; no visitation or local services have been scheduled.

Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla is in charge of arrangements.

Maynard McLarren

AUBURN — Maynard F. "Mac" McLarren, 70, died Thursday, July 3, 2003, at his home.

Mr. McLarren worked as a laborer for International Harvester for 21 years. He was a member of Hopewell United Brethren Church in rural Auburn. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, serving in Korea.

He was born July 10, 1932, in Philipsburg, Pa.

Surviving are his wife, Theressa O. McLarren; two sons, Vance McLarren of Cincinnati, and Brian McLarren of Auburn; a brother, Kermit McLarren of Pennsylvania; a sister, Vivian McGee of Philipsburg, Pa.; and three grandchildren, Qwinn McLarren of Auburn and Connor and Chandler McLarren, both of Cincinnati.

He was preceded in death by his parents and 10 brothers and sisters.

A memorial service will be Monday at 11 a.m. in Hopewell United Brethren Church, with calling from 10-11 a.m.

Memorials are to Hopewell United Brethren Church missions and Youth For Christ.

McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home of Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 7 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Marjorie Rodgers

FORT WAYNE — Marjorie R. Rodgers, 85, died Saturday, July 5, 2003, at Canterbury Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

She was born Nov. 13, 1917, in Evansville. Mrs. Rodgers was retired and a member of St. Jude Catholic Church.

Surviving are two sons, Timothy A. Rodgers Sr. of Fort Wayne and Robert A. Rodgers Jr. of San Diego, Calif., three daughters, Lynne A. Iwataki of Aurora, Ill., Mary Alycia Markey of Albion and Jennifer A. Johnson of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Charlotte Patera of Grassy Valley, Calif., and Jeanne Rosenberry of Springfield, Ohio; and seven grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert A. Rodgers Sr., and a brother, Robert Bramble.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Jude Catholic Church. Burial will be at Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at D.O. McComb & Sons Lakeside Park Funeral Home and one hour prior to services at the church Wednesday.

Memorials to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana or St. Jude Catholic Church.

Howard Moody

KENDALLVILLE — Howard D.C. Moody, 45, died Saturday, June 28, 2003, at 11 a.m. at his home in Kendallville.

Mr. Moody was a carpenter and construction worker. He served in the U.S. Navy.

He was born April 21, 1957, in Columbus, Ga.

Surviving are his father, Gerald Moody of Butler; his mother, C. Tabitha Ward Tinkle of Floresant, Colo.; two brothers, Richard of Sharing Springs, Mo., and Mark of Oklahoma City, Okla.; three half-brothers, Thomas and Joseph, both of Butler, and Benjamin of Kankakee, Ill.; four sisters, Janet Pease of South Bend, Roxanne Human of Nampa, Idaho, and Tamara Malzone and Arcie Moody, both of Colorado Springs, Colo., and three half-sisters, Rachel Moody of Fort Wayne, and Deborah and Diana Moody, both of Butler.

He was preceded in death by a half-brother, Anthony.

Services will be today at 5 p.m. in the Butler Nazarene Church, with calling after 4 p.m. The Rev. Paul Patton will officiate.

Claire Wolfe

LIGONIER — Claire Ann Wolfe, 61, died Sunday, July 6, 2003, at her Ligonier home.

Mrs. Wolfe was a homemaker and member of Ormas Baptist Church where she served as a Sunday school teacher. She was a member of the Ladies Missionary Society of the church.

Mrs. Wolfe

She enjoyed writing, and reading the Bible, missionary stories and biographies.

A native of Noble County, she was born Sept. 2, 1941, to Dale and Elda (Stillson) Hontz. She married Lew Wolfe on Aug. 5, 1967, in Ormas. He survives.

Surviving with her husband are her parents, of Kimmell; two daughters and sons-in-law, Mary and Joshua McClain of Scottsdale, Ariz., Elizabeth and David Harrison of Louisville, Ky.; a brother, Steven Hontz of Kimmell; two sisters, Reva Edwards of Kimmell and Cyrena Hoffeditz of Pittsboro; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Ormas Baptist Church with the Rev. Michael Allen officiating. Burial will be in Thorn Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-8 p.m. Tuesday at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier.

Memorials are to Ormas Baptist Church.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 7 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Elizabeth Miller

TOPEKA — Elizabeth M. Miller, 86, died Sunday, July 6, 2003, at Goshen General Hospital, where she had been a patient for more than three weeks.

Mrs. Miller was a homemaker and had worked for the Dr. Lehman family in Topeka for several years and did other housecleaning jobs.

She was a member of the Old Order Amish Church and wintered in Sarasota, Fla., for 17 years.

She was born May 2, 1917, in Defiance County, Ohio, to Mose D. and Barbara (Hershberger) Glick. She moved to the Topeka area as a young girl.

She married Harvey E. Miller on Aug. 10, 1969, and he survives.

Also surviving are two stepsons, Glenn Miller of Wakarusa and Paul Miller of Dowagiac, Mich.; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Mary and Joe Hochstetler of Middlebury and Anna Kramer of Jamesport, Mo.; two brothers; Milo Glick of Fredrickstown, Ohio, and Andy Glick of Elkhart; five stepgrandchildren; several stepgreat-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Ruth Hostetler, in 1994; three brothers, Levi, John and Dan Glick; and an infant sister, Rosa Glick.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the John Henry Eash residence in Topeka, with Bishop Jerry Miller and Bishop John Henry Eash officiating. Burial will be at Hawpatch Cemetery, Topeka.

Calling will be after 4 p.m. today and all day Tuesday at the Ervin Raber residence, Shipshewana, and after 9 a.m. Wednesday at the Eash residence.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 8 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Lucille Roach

CHURUBUSCO — Lucille M. Roach, 77, of Blue Lake and formerly of Fort Wayne, died at 2:03 a.m. Monday, July 7, 2003, at Parkview Whitley Hospital in Columbia City. She had been a patient in the hospital one week and had been in declining health for two years.

She had been employed at Meyer Stamping and Hoosier Wire Die. Mrs. Roach had lived in St. Petersburg, Fla., for a period of time and had resided with her daughter at Blue Lake the past two years.

Mrs. Roach was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary of the Gilbert Davis American Legion Post 157 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Turtle Post 3846, both in Churubusco.

She was born Nov. 16, 1925, in Fort Wayne to Harry Sr. and Ursa (Burns) Durnell.

On June 5, 1942, she married Joe E. Roach in Fort Wayne. He preceded her in death on July 16, 1982.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Barbara Gensheimer, and Sandra and Richard Harman, all of Churubusco, and Janet and Richard Ranney of Columbia City; two sons and daughters-in-law, Joe M. and Amy Roach of Churubusco and Bill and Karen Roach of Fort Wayne; a sister, Eleanor Miller of Fort Wayne; 15 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by two sisters, Geraldine Husky and Loretta Payne, and a brother, Harry Durnell Jr.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home.

Calling will be one hour prior to services.

Memorials to the Churubusco Community Christian Council.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

David Martin

ASHLEY — David A. Martin, 34, died Sunday, July 6, 2003, as the result of a drowning accident.

Mr. Martin was born July 9, 1968, in Mt. Pleasant, Mich., to Stephen A. and Anna (Blodgett) Martin. He worked for Caudill Salvage in Flint.

Surviving are his mother and stepfather, Anna and Richard Lepley of Ashley; a stepdaughter and stepson-in-law, Chris and James Russell of Angola; two brothers and a sister-in-law, Steve and Toledo Martin of Hudson and Michael Martin of Blanchard, Mich.; five sisters and brothers-in-law, Amy and Bill Engler of Cadillac, Mich., Valerie and Charles Hines Jr. of Ashley, Andrea and Dave Goble of Auburn, Emily and Cory Trobaugh of Lafayette, N.C. and Cheryl and Lester Tatro of Carlton, Mich.; grandparents, Stella Hough of Barryton, Mich., Ocie Martin of Rosebush, Mich. and Dwayne and Helen Lepley of Ashley; and two stepgrandchildren, Zachary and Rachel.

He was preceded in death by his father and two grandfathers, Harold Martin and Elmo Blodgett.

Services will be at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, with the Rev. Ken Ludwig officiating. No calling will be held.

Burial will be in Gilmore Township Cemetery, Farwell, Mich.

Memorials are to donor's choice.

Phyllis Marqueling

FORT WAYNE — Phyllis B. (Shultz) Marqueling, 79, died Sunday, July 6, 2003, at Parkview Hospital.

A native of LaGrange, she was a homemaker and worked at General Electric for eight years, retiring in 1968. She was a World War II Army WAC, a member of the Old Fort Motorcycle Club and St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church.

Surviving are her husband, Francis Henry Marqueling Sr.; four sons, Frank, John, Don and Jack Marqueling, all of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Dorothy Rauh of Kendallville and Vivian Cain of Sturgis, Mich.; 20 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by an infant son, Charles; two brothers; and six sisters.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church. Burial will be in Highland Park Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Wednesday at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, with a vigil at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Memorials are to Masses or the American Diabetes Association.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 8 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

LaVonne Johnson

AVILLA — LaVonne C. Johnson, 88, died Saturday, July 5, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

She was born in Peru and was a data processor with Lincoln National Life for 37 years.

Surviving are her husband, Eugene Johnson, of Avilla; a son, Robert Johnson, of LaOtto; two daughters, Peggy Schaefer of Auburn and Bonnie Miller of Fort Wayne; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 9, 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Ralph Bickley

WOLCOTTVILLE — Ralph S. Bickley, 69, a former resident of Wolcottville and Kimmell, died Saturday, July 5, 2003, at his home in Inverness, Fla.

He retired as a rural mail carrier from the Wolcottville Post Office. He served in the Army during the Korean War.

Mr. Bickley moved to Florida in August 2001. He was a former member of the Wolcottville Lions Club and was a member of the Rome City American Legion Post and the DAV.

He was born in Noble County Sept. 14, 1933, to Herbert and Goldie (Rhinehart) Bickley Sr. His first wife, Shirley Cary Bickley, died in March 1973. He then married Rosalee Johnson on June 8, 1991, and she survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Sue Ann Bickley of Granger and Tina and Larry Schermerhorn of Howe; three stepdaughters and their spouses, Connie Woods of North Webster, Pam and John Wainwright of Wolcottville and Carol and Brent Hovarter of Sturgis, Mich.; two stepsons, Ronald Cundiff of LaGrange and Tim Cundiff of Howe; a sister, Juanita Braden of Albion; a brother, Herbert Bickley Jr. of Fort Wayne; 14 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a sister, June Likens.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Richard Frederick officiating. Burial will be in Woodruff Cemetery in Wolcottville.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to LaGrange County Cancer Society or Hospice of Citrus County.

Rita Meyer

FORT WAYNE — Rita K. Meyer, 74, died Tuesday, July 8, 2003, in Ossian.

She was a native of Tipton and retired in 1997 as a medical technician with Parkview Hospital. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

Surviving are five sons, Michael and Gregg Meyer, both of Fort Wayne, Dennis Meyer of Ossian, Dan Meyer of Ashley and Ron Meyer of Tennessee; two daughters, Deborah Wilson and Renee Perkins, both of Ossian; two brothers, Andrew Ripberger of Indianapolis and Richard Ripberger of Fowler; three sisters, Theresa Thieme of Kendallville, Regina Imbody of Waynedale in Fort Wayne and Betty Solis of Reno, Nev.; a half sister, Mary Helen Percell of Greenville, Miss.; 23 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Joseph E. Ripberger, and two sisters, Joan Mullins and Sister Rosella Ripberger.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, with calling one hour before services. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens.

Calling also will be from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Friday at D.O. McComb & Sons Covington Knolls Funeral Home, with rosary at 3 p.m. Friday.

Virginia Hazelwood

FORT WAYNE — Virginia L. Hazelwood, 81, died Friday, July 4, 2003, at her home.

She was a retired secretary for Dr. Bossard and a founder of Habitat for Humanity. She was a member of Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren.

Surviving are her husband, Joseph T. Hazelwood of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Elena Hinkson of Avilla; two brothers, Jack Shady of Fort Wayne and Fred Peck of Pleaston, Calif.; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Liane, and two sons, Steven and Jon.

Memorial service at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren, with the Rev. Deann Brown officiating. Burial will be in Decatur Cemetery.

Memorials to Habitat for Humanity and Parkview Hospice.

Arrangements are by Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Home, Wayne Street Chapel.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 9 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Myrtle Rude

ORLAND — Myrtle L. Rude, 91, died Monday, July 7 2003, at home.

Mrs. Rude was born June 13, 1912, in York Township, Steuben County, one of the 15 children born to George and Mary (Smith) Zimmerman. She was married to Harold Rude on Feb. 28, 1935, and he preceded her in death on Nov. 17, 1999.

She was a homemaker, and had also worked for several years at Booth's Poultry Farm.

Surviving are a son, Charles Rude of Orland; three daughters, Beverly Van Wagner of Willow Springs, Ill., Barbara Henderson and Bonnie Henderson, both of Orland; two brothers; 10 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, six brothers and six sisters.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with Michael Booher officiating. Calling is from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday.

Burial will be in Jackson Prairie Cemetery, Steuben County.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 9 2003 ALBION, INDIANA

Marjorie Rodgers

FORT WAYNE – Marjorie R. Rodgers, 85, died Saturday, July 5, 2003, at Canterbury Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

She was born November 13, 1917, in Evansville. Mrs. Rodgers was retired and a member of St. Jude Catholic Church.

Surviving are two sons, Timothy A. Rodgers, Sr. of Fort Wayne and Robert A. Rodgers, Jr. of San Diego, CA,; three daughters, Lynne A. Iwataki of Aurora, IL, Mary Alycia Markey of Albion, and Jennifer A. Johnson of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Charlotte Patera of Grassy Valley, CA, and Jeanne Rosenberry of Springfield, OH; and seven grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert A. Rodgers, Sr., and a brother, Robert Bramble.

Services were held Wednesday, July 9, 2003, at St. Jude Catholic Church. Burial was at Catholic Cemetery.

Memorials are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana or St. Jude Catholic Church.

LaVonne Johnson

AVILLA – LaVonne C. Johnson, 88, died Saturday, July 5, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

She was born in Peru and was a data processor with Lincoln National Life for 37 years.

Surviving are her husband, Eugene Johnson, of Avilla; a son, Robert Johnson of LaOtto; two daughters, Peggy Schaefer of Auburn and Bonnie Miller of Fort Wayne; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, July 11, 2003, at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Claire Wolfe

LIGONIER – Claire Ann Wolfe, age 61, of Ligonier, IN, died Sunday, July 6, 2003, in her residence.

She was born on September 2, 1941, in Noble County, to Dale Hontz and Elda Stillson Hontz.

She married Lew Wolfe on August 5, 1967, in Ormas, IN; he survives her.

She was a homemaker and was a member of Ormas Baptist Church, a Sunday school teacher, and belonged to the Ladies Missionary Society.

She enjoyed writing, reading the Bible, missionary stories and biographies.

She is survived by her husband, Lew; her parents, Dale and Elda Hontz of Kimmell; two daughters and sons-in-law, Mary and Joshua McClain of Scottsdale, AZ, and Elizabeth and David Harrison from Louisville, KY; one brother, Steven Hontz of Kimmell; two sisters, Reva Edwards from Kimmell and Cyrena Hoffeditz of Pittsboro, IN; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Peter and Matthew.

Services were held Wednesday, July 9, 2003, at the Ormas Baptist Church with Rev. Michael Allen officiating. Burial followed in Thorn Cemetery.

For those who wish, memorial contributions can be made to Ormas Baptist Church.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 10 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

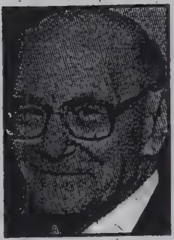
LaGrange town councilman dies

Richard Eash, 76, remembered as always doing his best for citizens

BY JULIANA CASILLAS
newssun@ligtel.com

LAGRANGE — LaGrange Town Council member Richard Eash died Wednesday night at the LaGrange Community Hospital from cancer.

Not only had Eash, 76, been a member of the LaGrange Town Council for the last 16 years, he was also the former LaGrange County auditor and the former LaGrange County surveyor.



Mr. Eash

LaGrange Town Council President Terry Helmer said he really enjoyed working with Eash.

"It was great to work with Eash because he really cared about the people of the town," said Helmer. "He was always interested in doing what was in the best interest of the people."

LaGrange town Clerk Michael Rowlison agreed.

"He was a diverse board member and he really enjoyed being on the board," said Rowlison.

He was also a member of LaGrange American Legion Post 215 and the LaGrange County CB Club.

Eash, who had been an Army veteran of the Korean War, had retired as a draftsman for Kehr Iron and had worked at Purity Market in LaGrange.

Ralph Kehr, owner of Kehr Iron, said Eash had worked in his company for about 12 years, but that he had known him for about 40 years.

"He was a really nice guy and he was a great worker," said Kehr.

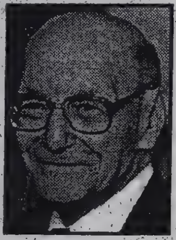
See the obituary on Page A8.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 10 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

LaGrange Councilman Richard Eash, 76, dies

LAGRANGE — LaGrange Town Councilman Richard L. Eash, 76, died Wednesday, July 9, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

He was a member of the LaGrange Town Council for the last 16 years. He was also the former LaGrange County auditor and former LaGrange County surveyor.


Mr. Eash

He had retired as a draftsman for Kehr Iron Works and had worked at Purity Market in LaGrange.

Mr. Eash was an Army veteran of the Korean War. He was a member of LaGrange American Legion Post 215 and the LaGrange County CB Club.

He was born in LaGrange County April 21, 1927, to Glenn J. and Mary Esther (Mishler) Eash. On July 4, 1977, he married Norma J. Smith in Gastonia, N.C., and she survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, ReDena and Mark Dalrymple of Elkhart; a son, Rodney Eash of Angola; a stepdaughter and her husband, Susan and Gene Medlin of LaGrange; a stepson and his wife, the Rev. Timothy and Brenda Campbell of Lawsonville, N.C.; a sister, Peggy Carrel of Dallas, Texas; a brother, James J. Eash of LaGrange; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services are pending. Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials are to the LaGrange County Council on Aging.

Maurice Stafford

WATERLOO — A memorial service for Maurice E. "Gene" Stafford, 77, will take place Sunday at 1 p.m. in Victory Baptist Church of Waterloo.

Mike Sassanella will officiate. Burial will be in Waterloo Cemetery.

There will be no calling. Feller Funeral Home of Waterloo is handling arrangements.

Mr. Stafford died Tuesday, July 1, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn.

He worked as a printer for Waterloo Printing. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II.

He was a member of the Waterloo Lions Club, the Waterloo post of Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Post 97 in Auburn, the DeKalb County Merit Board and the Masonic Lodge.

He was born Aug. 8, 1925, in Auburn to Frank and Dora (Shields) Stafford. They preceded him in death.

He married Annabelle Donaldson on April 21, 1946, in Auburn. She died June 5, 2000.

Surviving are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Rick of Goshen, Reggie and Susanne of Story Lake and Mike and Cindy of Auburn; one daughter, Karen Badman of Kendallville; two brothers, Bob of Auburn and Walter of Fort Wayne; one sister, Ruth Lee of New Haven; eight grandchildren and 11 grandchildren.

One son, Randy, preceded him in death.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 10 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Genevieve Moran

WOLCOTTVILLE — Genevieve Moran, 87, died Tuesday, July 8, 2003, at Miller's Merry Manor in LaGrange following an extended illness.

She was a homemaker and had lived in the area 22 years. She was a member of Five Corners Baptist Church.

Mrs. Moran was born Nov. 4, 1916, in Howell, Mich., to R.C. and Catherine (Beck) Roberts. On Sept. 28, 1943, in Howell, she married Thomas L. Moran. He died June 1, 1987.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Catherine and Bob Hart of Sandford, Fla.; four sons and a daughter-in-law, Thomas and Alma Moran of Topeka, Jim Moran of Marquette, Mich., and Joseph and John Moran, both of Wolcottville; 25 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Also preceding her in death were two sons, Charles and Homer; a brother; and a sister.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. Clarence Combs officiating. Burial will be in Woodland Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 11 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Joseph Mulcahy

FORT WAYNE — Joseph Michael Mulcahy, 36, died Saturday, July 5, 2003, at his home from cancer.

He had worked at the Lantern as a banquet manager.

He was born Dec. 31, 1966, in Springfield, Ohio.

Surviving are his mother and stepfather, Jocelyn and Chris Ivancic of Fort Wayne; his father and stepmother, Michael and Barbara Mulcahy of Cincinnati, Ohio; a grandfather, Michael J. Cafeo Sr. of Springfield; grandparents, Melvin and Rita Meyers of Cincinnati; a brother, Shaun Ivancic of Fort Wayne; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Rose and George Mullins of Kendallville and Tina Brown of Covington, Ky.; his caregiver, Cory Argerbright; a stepsister and her husband, Kelly and Kevin Krekeler; and a stepbrother, Michael Mulcahy Jr.

Mr. Mulcahy

Also surviving are several aunts and uncles including Elena (LeLe) Jordan of Springfield, Ohio, and Mike and Suzi Ivancic and Dan Ivancic, all of Kendallville; and several nieces and nephews including Jocelyn Nicole, Joshua W., Jerrod A. and Jordan R. Miller, all of Kendallville, and Aimee Ivancic of Kendallville.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Hockemeyer and Miller Funeral Home.

Calling will be one hour prior to the services.

A celebration of his life will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Nite Owl Bingo Hall on Stable Drive.

Memorials are to the Joseph Mulcahy fund in care of Jocelyn Ivancic, 2606 Lavender Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46818.

Arrangements by the Northeast Indiana Cremation Society.

Louis Rastetter

FORT WAYNE — Louis C. Rastetter, 92, died Thursday, July 10, 2003, at Woodview Manor Healthcare.

He was vice president of Louis Rastetter & Sons Co., retiring in 1975. He was a member of Trinity English Lutheran Church where he served on the church council.

Mr. Rastetter served as president of the Rotary Club in 1945 and as District Governor of Rotary International in 1950. He was active in the Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce, United Chest Council of Allen County, and Boy Scouts of America where he served on the National Council.

Surviving are a son, Louis C. Rastetter of Columbia City; two daughters, Harriette L. Headford of Fort Wayne and Diana S. Nichter of Rome City; seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years, Harriett Landes Rastetter.

Private family services will be held. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery.

Memorials to Trinity English Lutheran Church or Anthony Wayne Area Council Boy Scouts of America.

Arrangements by Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Homes.

Dr. Eugene Alter

FORT WAYNE — Dr. Eugene Alter, 64, of Fort Wayne, died Saturday, June 21, 2003, at Parkview North Hospital.

Dr. Alter recently retired from his dental practice in Fort Wayne and Angola after 36 years. He was a member of Trinity English Lutheran Church and the Isaac Knapp Dental Society.

He was a 1967 graduate of the Indiana University School of Dentistry.

Surviving are his wife, Carole; four daughters, Susan Swain of Evansville, Meg Dierkes of Cleveland, Molly Groom Alter of Chicago and Heather Shie of Fort Wayne; two sons, Steve Call of Fort Wayne and Doug Call of Naples, Fla.; two sisters, Judy David of Angola and Janet Landrum of Auburn; a brother, James Alter of Hudson; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Services were held June 24 at Trinity English Lutheran Church. Burial was in Highland Park Cemetery.

Memorials are to Trinity English Lutheran Church.

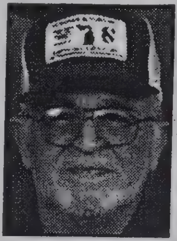
THE NEWS SUN

JULY 12 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Ronald Binkley

BRISTOL — Ronald E. Binkley, 66, of Bristol, died Friday, July 11, 2003. He had been declining in health.

Mr. Binkley worked most of his life as a heavy equipment operator and was an Army veteran of the Korean War.



Mr. Binkley

He was born April 28, 1937, in Fremont, Ohio, to Robert and Eva (Stout) Binkley. They preceded him in death.

On Aug. 6, 1955, he married Beatrice Heberling in Fremont, Ohio. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Eva and Franklin Treece of Goshen; four sons and daughters-in-law, Robert and Cindy Binkley of Bristol, Marvin and Carol Binkley of Goshen, Randy and Peggy Binkley of Bristol, and Michael and Cindy Worley of LaGrange, Ga.; a sister and brother-in-law, Marlene and Tony Giger of Clyde, Ohio; a brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Patty Binkley of Greensprings, Ohio; 15 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

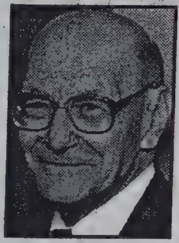
Services will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury. The Rev. Tony Giger will officiate.

Calling will be 2-6 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the funeral home.

Services set for Councilman Richard Eash

LAGRANGE — Services have been set for LaGrange Town Councilman Richard L. Eash, 76, who died Wednesday, July 9, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.



Mr. Eash

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at Brighton Chapel in Brighton, with the Rev. Jeremy Helmuth officiating.

Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be 2-6 p.m. Sunday at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange.

Memorials are to the LaGrange County Council on Aging.

He was a member of the LaGrange Town Council for the last 16 years. He was also the former LaGrange County auditor and former LaGrange County surveyor.

He had retired as a draftsman for Kehr Iron Works and had worked at Purity Market in LaGrange.

Mr. Eash was an Army veteran of the Korean War. He was a member of LaGrange American Legion Post 215 and the LaGrange County CB Club.

He was born in LaGrange County April 21, 1927, to Glenn J. and Mary Esther (Mishler) Eash. On July 4, 1977, he married Norma J. Smith in Gastonia, N.C., and she survives.

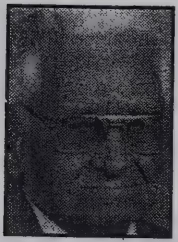
Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, ReDena and Mark Dalrymple of Elkhart; a son, Rodney Eash of Angola; a stepdaughter and her husband, Susan and Gene Medlin of LaGrange; a stepson and his wife, the Rev. Timothy and Brenda Campbell of Lawsonville, N.C.; a sister, Peggy Carrel of Dallas, Texas; a brother, James J. Eash of LaGrange; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 13 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Jacob Kell

HUNTERTOWN — Jacob F. Kell, 99, a well-known Allen County businessman, died Friday, July 11, 2003, at Heritage Park Nursing Home in Fort Wayne, where he had been a patient since May.


Mr. Kell

Mr. Kell was born March 16, 1904, in Perry Township in Allen County, to Frederick Jacob Kell and Florence Bessie (Fitch) Kell.

He graduated from Huntertown High School in 1924. He spent his entire lifetime on the same family farm in rural Huntertown where he was born.

As a young man, he was engaged in farming in Allen County, and in 1944 co-founded a successful well drilling business. Along with his son, he operated Kell Drilling Inc. (Kell & Kell) in Huntertown for many years, retiring in 1978.

He was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in LaOtto, Huntertown Lodge 689 F&AM, the Indiana Ground Water Association, and the National Ground Water Association.

He was married in Fort Wayne on Nov. 15, 1930, to Elsie C. Alden. She preceded him in death on May 1, 1987.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, J. Frederick and Eula Kell of Huntertown; a daughter and son-in-law, Ann and Russell Lyon of Huntertown; nine grandchildren and spouses, Diane and Paul Barnes of Greveport, Ohio, Alan and Diane Lyon of Greenwood, Perry and Denise Lyons, Debi and Lloyd Knowles of Lansing, Mich., Rick and Susan Gulick of Cleveland, Ohio, Lisa and Timothy Pfefferkorn of Augusta, Ga., Lana and Mark Frey of Waterloo and Eric Kell and Nathan Kell, both of Huntertown; and 19 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Victor Kell in 1933; three sisters, Carolyn Davis, Sarah Elizabeth DeBolt and Mary Ellen Arnold; and a brother, Thomas Kell.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, LaOtto, with Pastor Sue Socha officiating.

Calling will be Monday from 2 to 8 p.m. at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, Churubusco, or at the church Tuesday from 9 to 10 a.m.

Burial will be in Huntertown Cemetery.

Memorials are to Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Verline Bates

MARION — Verline F. Bates, 74, died Saturday, July 12, 2003, at 9:25 a.m. at Colonial Oaks Health Care Center.

Mrs. Bates retired from RCA after 34 years of service. She attended Lighthouse Assembly of God, and was a member of AMVETS Auxiliary and RCA Sympathy Club.

She loved to fish and enjoyed going to rummage sales with friends. She enjoyed word search puzzles and loved being with her grandchildren. She always helped take care of family and friends when they were sick.

She was born in Pine Bluff, Ark., on March 25, 1929, to Barney and Maudie (Shelton) Townsel. She was raised in Heber Springs, Ark., and moved to Marion in 1946.

She married Junior D. Bates on May 27, 1946, and he survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Freda Mae and Ron Stambaugh of Waterloo and Connie Fae and Don Guthrie of Marion; a brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Oneil Townsel of Marion; a sister and brother-in-law, Dorothy Lynette and Guy Mazzo of Fort Worth, Texas; three grandchildren, Frances Dean Compo of Gas City, Leslie Kay Lewis of Marion and Leslie Kay Lewis of Marion; five great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Lewis Townsel; a sister, Tresa Turney; and a grandson, Timothy Darrell Stambaugh.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral Service North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, with the Rev. Jerry Gallaway officiating.

Calling is Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Grant Memorial Park, Marion.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 13 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

George Renner

LAKELAND, Fla. — George R. Renner, 81, died Thursday, July 10, 2003, at Good Shepherd Hospice in Auburndale, Fla. He had been in declining health for some time, and had been a patient at Good Shepherd for a week.

Mr. Renner was born in DeKalb County on Sept. 23, 1921, to Brace and Mildred (Goodwin) Renner. He spent his formative years in that area, and graduated from Auburn High School in 1939.

As a young man, he served with the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and was married during that time in Las Vegas to Anita F. Phelps on Nov. 26, 1941. She preceded him in death on Jan. 15, 2002.

Mr. Renner

Following his military discharge, the Renners lived most of their married lives in Fort Wayne, and had moved to Lakeland in 1990.

He was a retired truck driver for General Electric in Fort Wayne, where he was employed for much of his adult life.

Surviving are four daughters and a son-in-law, Linda and Max Gay of Churubusco and Barbara Renner, Martha Renner and Deborah Mirante, all of Lakeland; a son, Robert Renner of Churubusco; three sisters, Rebecca Zuber of Phoenix, Ariz., Martha Warren of New Orleans and Marilyn Phipps of Tucson, Ariz.; 10 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Judy Renner.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola, with the Rev. Ken Robinson, pastor of Hopewell Presbyterian Church, officiating. Military rites will follow. At the request of the family, there will be no calling.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, Churubusco, is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials are to Good Shepherd Hospice at Grace Health Care, 105 Arneson Ave., Auburndale, FL 33823.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@sheetsfuneral-home.com.

Zachary Miller

ANGOLA — Zachary Lee Miller, 7 months old, died Friday, July 11, 2003, at home.

He was born Nov. 19, 2002, in Angola, to Michael and Kathleen (Clute) Miller. Both parents survive.

Also surviving are his maternal grandmother, Kathleen Czarnecki of Charlotte, Mich.; a paternal grandmother, Katherine Courtney of Angola; a brother, Ryan Miller of Angola; and two sisters, Kayla Miller and Bailey Jones, both of Angola.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Weicht Funeral Home, 207 N. West St., Angola. Calling will be Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Burial will be in Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola.

Memorials are to the family.

Rex Nofzinger

CORUNNA — Rex A. Nofzinger, 53, died Friday, July 11, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Nofzinger worked at Dana Corp. for 32 years and two months, retiring in 2000. He had owned and operated Rex Enterprises since 2000.

He was a member of the Sons of the American Legion and was affiliated with the Huntertown United Methodist Church. He loved nature and fishing and collected John Deere Tractors.

Mr. Nofzinger

He was born Dec. 19, 1949, in Fort Wayne, to Walter and Berneda G. (Peck) Nofzinger. His mother survives in Auburn.

He married Roxanna E. Foss in Harlan on April 16, 1977, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Kevin A. and Dawn Nofzinger of Garrett and Sean M. and Jennifer Nofzinger of Auburn; a daughter and son-in-law, Jody and Jeffrey Cook of Auburn; a brother, Ronnie D. Nofzinger of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Patricia L. DeLagranger of Hudson and Sharlene S. Seiler of Auburn; five grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 5 p.m. Tuesday at 1044 C.R. 10, Corunna, with the Rev. Sherry Long officiating.

Calling is from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Feller Funeral Home, Waterloo, and also at the funeral site from 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Burial will be in Leo Cemetery at a later date.

Memorials are to DeKalb County Hospice or Huntertown United Methodist Church.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net

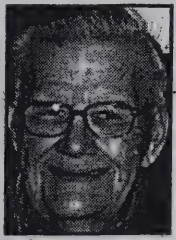
THE NEWS SUN
JULY 13 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Garrett man a constant educator

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

GARRETT — Lester R. McCartney never stopped teaching.

Mr. McCartney spent 30 years at Garrett High School in the business education field. He also taught Bible classes at the Auburn Church of Christ, and was still teaching and leading singing until the recent illness that led to his death July 7, at the age of 79.


Mr. McCartney

Harriet Ludban, who worked at the school in bookkeeping and as a secretary, said she knew Mr. McCartney "a long, long time."

She said he was "a good friend and a kind person." She got to know him when she signed up for a night class at the high school, when she was a school cafeteria worker.

"He was always around when a problem would come up with a typewriter or an adding machine," she recalled. After her night classes, she went on to work in bookkeeping and as a secretary at the school.

Sarah Eldridge taught typing and shorthand. She noted Mr. McCartney's dedication to working with students in what is now know as the ICE program, where students attend classes part of the day and work in a related job the rest of the day.

Mr. McCartney came to Garrett after first teaching in schools in Arkansas and Louisiana. He was a native of Tennessee, and his wife, Christine, whom he married in 1949, had family in Garrett.

According to his daughter, Christine, Mr. McCartney was the type of person who never knew a stranger.

"He would strike up a conversation with anyone, even someone sitting on a park bench," she said. "That, I always thought, was kind of neat, because I am not that way at all."

She said her father taught at church camp in the summers, at Camp Indohgan at Silver Lake, and vacations usually involved visits to zoos, wherever the family might be visiting.

"We always had a season pass (to the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo) and went to a lot of other zoos," she recalled. "Dad loved to watch the animals and the kids.

"Just before he got really sick, he spent two weeks in Michigan with his grandkids, Tim and Sean," she said, "and to the end he was always a teacher."

Mr. McCartney was also a Navy veteran of World War II. He arrived at Pearl Harbor just days after the sneak attack that put the United States into the war, serving in the medical field.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 13 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Ilif Behrens

HOWE — Ilif K. Behrens, 93, of Howe, died Friday, July 11, 2003, at 10 p.m. in Elkhart.

Mrs. Behrens was a home economics teacher at Mishawaka Schools. She moved to LaGrange County in 1992. She was a member of the National Education Association and the Indiana State Teacher's Association.

She was born Jan. 4, 1910, in Garrett, to Harry and Bertha (Olinger) Deihl.

She married William J. Behrens in Auburn on Sept. 10, 1938, and he preceded her in death on June 7, 2000.

Surviving are two nieces whom she raised, Beth Pomeroy of Elkhart and Sue Pomeroy Roberts of Mishawaka; a sister, Lois Yarde of Avilla; 12 nieces and nephews, 33 great-nieces and nephews, and 36 great-great-nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by three brothers and sisters.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Fruirip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with the Rev. Venette Kashner officiating. Calling will be from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery of Garrett.

Memorials are to Hospice of Elkhart County.

Esther Miller

LAGRANGE — Esther Miller, 80, died Saturday, July 12, 2003, at 12:50 p.m. in Miller's Merry Manor, LaGrange.

Mrs. Miller was a homemaker and a laborer at Duo-Therm Corp. in LaGrange for 28 years. She was a member of her church's sewing circle and card-playing club. She loved gardening.

She was born Sept. 11, 1922, in Wakarusa, to Austin and Ida (Nunemaker) Newcomer.

She married Oscar N. Miller on May 24, 1942, in LaGrange, and he preceded her in death on Jan. 5, 1992.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Jan and Ernie Schrock of Angola; three sons and two daughters-in-law, Jerry and Ann Miller of Middlebury, Jerald and Teresa Miller of LaGrange and JayDee Miller of LaGrange; a sister-in-law, Ruth Newcomer of Wakarusa; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Egar and Dwight Newcomer.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Emma Mennonite Church with the Rev. Gene Hartman and the Rev. Paul L. Newcomer officiating.

Calling is Monday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at Fruirip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange.

Burial will be in Shore Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Memorials are to American Lung Association or Emma Mennonite Church.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 14 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Joseph Kiesling

ALBION — Joseph L. Kiesling, 46, died Thursday, July 10, 2003, in Fort Wayne.

A resident of High Lake for the last 2 1/2 years, he was employed at Midwest Precision Machining Co. in Fort Wayne. He was also a tattoo artist and a U.S. Army veteran.

Mr. Kiesling

Mr. Kiesling was born May 14, 1957, in Clear Field, Ky., to Robert L. "Tony" and Lecinda (Miller) Kiesling. They survive in Columbia City. On Jan. 24, 1991, he married Judith J. Cruce. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Nick Kiesling of Moffat, Texas; three daughters, Shannon Richowski of Colorado Springs, Colo., Laura Kiesling of Columbia City, Kayla Kiesling of Albion; a stepdaughter, Mandy Edmondson of Salado, Texas; two grandchildren; and two sisters, Tracey Carteaux of Columbia City and Amanda Kiesling of Redford, Mich.

There are no services.

Calling will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Smith & Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City.

Memorials are to the family.

Janice Hittle

ALBION — Janice L. Hittle, 59, of rural Albion died at noon Saturday, July 12, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Her husband, Paul, preceded her in death in June.

Survivors include her mother, a son, and a daughter.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Opal Johnston

CHURUBUSCO — Opal G. Johnston, 75, died at 6:05 p.m. Saturday, July 12, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana following a lengthy illness.

Survivors include two daughters, Joanne Johnston of Churubusco and Karen Dennison of Mulberry, Fla., and two sons, Kenneth Johnston of Kendallville and Jack Johnston of Great Falls, Mont.

Services are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Richard Hippenhammer

AVILLA — Richard A. Hippenhammer, 64, of Avilla, died at 5 p.m. Sunday, July 13, 2003, in Parkview Noble Hospital.

Services are pending at Brazzell Funeral Home, Avilla.

Otis Ritchie

CHURUBUSCO — Otis P. Ritchie, 93, of Gaston died Saturday. Arrangements pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, Churubusco.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 15 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Opal Johnston

CHURUBUSCO — Opal G. Johnston, 92, died at 6:05 p.m. Saturday, July 12, 2003, at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana. She had been in failing health for some time and had entered the hospice home on Wednesday.

A former employee of Sears Roebuck and Co. in Fort Wayne, she was a retired employee of Whitley Products in South Whitley. She enjoyed sewing, movies and dining out.

Mrs. Johnston

She was a member of Churubusco United Methodist Church and active in United Methodist Women. She was a former member of the Pythian Sisters.

Mrs. Johnston was born Dec. 25, 1910, in Boswell to Earnie and Bertha (Zolman) Cripe. She married Luther K. Johnston on Sept. 11, 1929, in South Bend. He died May 12, 1983. They spent the early years of their marriage in Fort Wayne until moving to Churubusco in 1933.

Surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Joanne B. Johnston of Churubusco and Karen and Ernest "Gene" Dennison Sr. of Mulberry, Fla.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Kenny and Martha Johnston of Kendallville and Jack J. and Melba Johnston of Great Falls, Mont.; two brothers and a sister-in-law, Alfred Cripe and Delbert and Shirley Cripe, all of Columbia City; a sister and brother-in-law, Lucille and Donald Dodd of Constantine, Mich.; seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were five brothers, Charles, Earnie, Edgar, Eugene and Robert R. Cripe; and seven sisters, Mildred Brumbaugh, Marguerite Striegle, Dorothy Dodd, Elizabeth Boggs, Beverly Summers, Mary Frances Cripe and Lillie Mae Cripe.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, with the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs, pastor of Churubusco United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery.

Calling will be from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Churubusco United Methodist Church boiler fund or Parkview Home Health & Hospice, Columbia City.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Richard Hippenhammer

AVILLA — Richard "Dick" A. Hippenhammer, 64, died at 5 p.m. Sunday, July 13, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

He had worked at Dana Corp. as a machinist for more than 20 years.

Mr. Hippenhammer was a veteran of the U.S. Army and a member of American Legion Post 240 in Avilla. He loved fishing, golfing and watching his grandchildren play baseball.

Mr. Hippenhammer

He was born Jan. 31, 1939, in Noble County to Russell and Opal (Smith) Hippenhammer. On June 18, 1966, he married Barbara "Barb" Fischer at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Shannon Hippenhammer of Avilla; a daughter and son-in-law, Joann and Jed Feagler of Avilla; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Marilyn and Gil Baumgartner of Fort Wayne and Janet and Phil Meyer of Venice, Fla.; three grandchildren, Kyle Johnson, and Tanner and Kendall Hippenhammer, all of Avilla; and two stepgrandchildren, Dereck and Devin Feagler.

He was preceded in death by two brothers.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Brazzell Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dr. Leonard King officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery with military graveside rites by American Legion Post 240.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday and one hour prior to services.

Memorials are to Parkview Hospice.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 15 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Helen Weimer

WOLCOTTVILLE — Helen M. Weimer, 88, died Monday, July 14, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. Weimer was a homemaker.

Mrs. Weimer

She was born Dec. 18, 1914, in Green Center to Alva and Effie Herendeen. On Aug. 2, 1936, she married Harold F. Weimer in Albion. He died Feb. 14, 1982.

She had lived in the Wolcottville area 66 years and attended Wayne Center United Methodist Church.

Surviving are a daughter, Jan Gibson of Kendallville; two sons and daughters-in-law, Donald and Gloria Weimer and Harold and Darlene Hunt, all of Kendallville; 12 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Betty Stroh, and two brothers, Donald Herendeen and Darrel Herendeen.

Services will be at 1:30 p.m. Thursday at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Gene Flickinger of Wayne Center United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in Sweet Cemetery, Albion.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Wednesday.

Preferred memorials are to Parkview Home Health & Hospice, 109 E. Central Ave., LaGrange, IN 46761.

Treva Bodey

FORT WAYNE — Treva A. Bodey, 95, died Friday, July 11, 2003, at The Towne House Health Center in Fort Wayne.

Born in Garrett, Mrs. Bodey was the owner and office manager of H.J. Bodey Inc. for 28 years before retiring in 1974. She was involved in the Quota Club and the Rosary Society and was a member of St. John the Baptist Church.

Surviving are four brothers, John P. Mowry of New Haven, Wayne F. Mowry of Albion, Argyle "George" Mowry of Waterloo and Lionel "Bud" Mowry of Angola; and a sister, Doris "Louise" Rosenberry of Tempe, Ariz.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Henry J. Bodey, and two brothers.

Services will be Friday at 10 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 4500 S. Fairfield Ave., with calling one hour prior to the service. Burial will be in the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne.

Calling is Thursday from 3-5 and 7-9 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Foster Park Funeral Home, 6301 Fairfield Ave., with a rosary service.

Memorials are to masses or the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen.

Wanda Tritch

PLEASANT LAKE — Wanda E. Tritch, 79, died Sunday, July 13, 2003, at home.

Mrs. Tritch was a lifelong resident of Pleasant Lake. She was born Aug. 11, 1923, in Steuben County, to Kirby and Sarah Voilet (Walters) Batterson. She married Harold Tritch on June 17, 1945, and he preceded her in death in 1996.

She was a homemaker who enjoyed traveling and gardening. She liked doing word search puzzles and was a very talented piano player.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Paul and Margie Tritch of Metz; three daughters and a son-in-law, Diana Lynn Tritch of Pleasant Lake, Bonnie Elaine and Thomas Gardener of Hamilton and Christina Ann Tritch of Pleasant Lake; a sister, Mina Batterson of Auburn; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Glema Arlene Vogelpohl.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with Pastor Jim Hulbert officiating. Calling is an hour before services.

Burial will be in South Scott Cemetery, Steuben County.

Memorials are to Angola Christian Church or Cameron Hospice and Home Health Care.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 15 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Vern Bradley

FORT WAYNE — Vern F. Bradley, 82, died Sunday, July 13, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

He was an Army veteran of World War II and was employed by NIPSCO for 34 years, retiring in 1981.

Mr. Bradley was born May 17, 1921, in Avilla and graduated from Avilla High School.

He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Surviving are his wife, Virginia of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Cheryl Ann Bobay of Fort Wayne; a son, Alan Dean Bradley of New Haven; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by three brothers and three sisters.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Burial will be in Lindenwood Cemetery with military graveside services by American Legion Post 241.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at C.M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home and one hour prior to services Thursday at the church.

Memorials are to St. Joseph Catholic Church or Visiting Nurse Service & Hospice Inc.

Betty Hall

COLUMBIA CITY — Betty J. Hall, 75, formerly of Columbia City, died Saturday, July 12, 2003, in Fort Wayne.

A native of Fort Wayne, she was a former baker and supervisor for Summers Bakery.

Survivors include her former husband, Tony Gordon of Fort Wayne; four sons, Ted Gordon of Tulsa, Okla., Fred Gordon of Roanoke, Wayne Gordon of Whitewater, Wis., and Kenny Gordon of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Judy Barnes of Fort Wayne and Vickie Ashcraft of Celina, Ohio; two stepdaughters, Grace Kelly and Donna Diss, both of Fort Wayne; a sister, Colleen Statler of Wolf Lake; four brothers, Robert Myers and Bill Myers, both of Fort Wayne, Jim Myers of Waco, Texas, and Don Myers of Avilla; 18 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her second husband, Charles R. Hall.

Services were today at DeMoney-Grimes Funeral Home, Columbia City. Burial was in Christian Chapel Cemetery in Noble County.

Janice Hittle

ALBION — Janice L. Hittle, 59, died at noon Saturday, July 12, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Hittle was employed by Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville in admissions and medical records. She had taught English and math from 1967-1968 for the Central Noble School Corp. in Albion. She also taught for Smith-Green Community Schools from 1968-1972.

She was an avid reader and enjoyed doing cross-stitch.

Mrs. Hittle graduated from Morton High School in Hammond in 1961 and from Indiana State University in 1965 with degrees in English and math.

She was born Jan. 17, 1944, in Hammond to James E. and Inez (Sweet) Kiger. On April 30, 1966, she married Paul A. Hittle in Hobart. He preceded her in death June 22.

She is survived by her mother; a son and daughter-in-law, Dan and Sharon Hittle of Lombard, Ill., and a daughter, Arlene Hittle of Flagstaff, Ariz.

She was also preceded in death by a brother.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, Churubusco, with the Rev. E. Vaughn Powell officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Calling will be from 4-8 p.m. Thursday.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

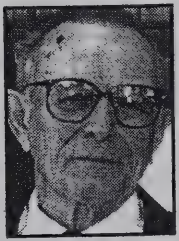
Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 16 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Allen Wysong

WOLF LAKE — Allen L. "Bud" Wysong, 83, died at 10 p.m. Monday, July 14, 2003, in Parkview Whitley Hospital, Columbia City.


Mr. Wysong

He was a retired farmer and an Army veteran of World War II. He was a 1937 graduate of Wolf Lake High School and a life member of Wolf Lake V.F.W. No. 4717. He was a member of Albion American Legion Post 246 and active with the Wolf Lake Booster Club and the Wolf Lake Fire Department.

He was born Sept. 26, 1919, in Noble County to Robert and Ruth (Gandy) Wysong. On Dec. 28, 1946, in Wolf Lake, he married H. Joann Bennett. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Richard "Rick" Wysong of Wolf Lake and Robert "Bob" and Mary Wysong of Cromwell; a sister, Mary Parkinson of Kimmell; a brother, Paul Wysong of Columbia City; a brother-in-law, Steve Bennett of Ligonier; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Ann Parsons.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier with the Rev. Don Poyser officiating. Burial will be in Thorn Cemetery in Ormas with military graveside services .

Calling will be from 2-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Wolf Lake V.F.W. Post 4717 or to the Wolf Lake Fire Department.

Earl Kelly

ELYRIA, Ohio — Earl L. Kelly, 93, died Monday, July 14, 2003, at Center Ridge Nursing Home in North Ridgeville, Ohio.

Mr. Kelly was born April 3, 1910, in Elyria, where he lived most of his life. He graduated from Amherst High School in 1928.

He was a sergeant in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II, serving in Italy.

He was a carpenter and had worked for various local contractors. He was then employed as a carpenter at General Motors Fisher Body in Elyria for 12 years, retiring in 1976.

He was a member of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Elyria, the Elyria Fellowship Lodge, King Soloman Lodge No. 546 F. & A.M. in Elyria, El Ray Grotto in Elyria and Elyria V.F.W. Post No. 1079.

His hobbies included bowling and gardening.

Surviving are a daughter, Colleen R. Gorby of Elyria; a son, Richard E. Kelly of Orland; three grandchildren, two great-granddaughters and two step-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Norma M., in 1992, and a brother, Ralph Kelly.

Services will be at noon Friday at Dicken Funeral Home, Elyria, with the Rev. Dennis F. Fredrikson officiating. Calling is Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m.

Burial will be in Ridge Hill Memorial Park, Amherst Township, Ohio.

Pedro Mamprim

MIDDLEBURY — Pedro Henrique-Souza Mamprim, 17, died Monday, July 14, 2003, in a one-car accident in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

Mr. Mamprim

Mr. Mamprim had lived with Tony and Toni Bontrager and their children, Taylor, Todd and Tucker, rural Middlebury, from Aug. 2, 2002, to June 10.

He was a recent graduate of Northridge High School where he played on the varsity soccer team. He was an honor student.

Mr. Mamprim was born Jan. 10, 1986, in Brazil to Henrique and Marcia Mamprim. They survive in Brazil.

Also surviving are a sister, Bruna Mamprim of Brazil; and a half sister.

Memorial services will be at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Northridge High School cafeteria with the Rev. James F. Simpson, the Rev. Gordon Henke and Gessica Hufnagale officiating. Burial will be in Brazil.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home is in charge of local arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 16 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Wava Robertson

GARRETT — Wava R. Robertson, 89, died Tuesday, July 15, 2003, in Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Mrs. Robertson was a seamstress at Wirk Garment in Ligonier and had worked for the DeKalb County Council on Aging from 1986-1996.

She was born Dec. 1, 1913, in Kendallville to Arthur and Emma (Snyder) Franklin. Her husband, James, died in 1956.

Surviving are three sons, Donald Jones and Richard Jones, both of Fort Wayne, and James Robertson of Garrett; one sister, Elsie Linthicum of Goshen; 22 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Martha Turner; a son, Arthur Jones; three brothers, Bernard Franklin, James Franklin and Arthur Franklin; and two sisters, Lucille Gage and Patricia McCoy.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with the Rev. Dan Carlson officiating. Burial will be in Hooper-King Cemetery, Avilla.

Calling will be from 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Kidney Foundation.

This obituary is being reprinted to correct the time of services.

Joseph Mulcahy

FORT WAYNE — Joseph Michael Mulcahy, 36, died Saturday, July 5, 2003, at his home from cancer.

Mr. Mulcahy

He had worked at the Lantern as a banquet manager.

He was born Dec. 31, 1966, in Springfield, Ohio.

Surviving are his mother and stepfather, Jocelyn and Chris Ivancic of Fort Wayne; his father and stepmother, Michael and Barbara Mulcahy of Cincinnati, Ohio; a grandfather, Michael J. Cafeo Sr. of Springfield; grandparents, Melvin and Rita Meyers of Cincinnati; a brother, Shaun Ivancic of Fort Wayne; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Rose and George Mullins of Kendallville and Tina Brown of Covington, Ky.; his caregiver, Cory Argerbright; a stepsister and her husband, Kelly and Kevin Krekeler; and a stepbrother, Michael Mulcahy Jr.

Also surviving are several aunts and uncles including Elena (LeLe) Jordan of Springfield, Ohio, and Mike and Suzi Ivancic and Dan Ivancic, all of Kendallville; and several nieces and nephews including Jocelyn Nicole, Joshua W., Jerrod A. and Jordan R. Miller, all of Kendallville, and Aimee Ivancic of Kendallville.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Hockemeyer and Miller Funeral Home.

Calling will be one hour prior to the services.

A celebration of his life will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Nite Owl Bingo Hall on Stable Drive.

Memorials are to the Joseph Mulcahy fund in care of Jocelyn Ivancic, 2606 Lavender Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46818.

Arrangements by the Northeast Indiana Cremation Society.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 16 2003 ALBION, INDIANA

Opal Johnston

CHURUBUSCO -- Opal G. Johnston, 92, a resident of Churubusco and widow of Luther K. Johnston, died at 6:05 p.m. Saturday, July 12, 2003, at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana. She had been in failing health for some time, and had entered the Hospice Home on Wednesday.

Mrs. Johnston was born on December 25, 1910, in Bos-well, Indiana, a daughter of Earnie and Bertha (Zolman) Cripe. She spent her formative years there, and moved to this area in 1928. On September 11, 1929, she was married in South Bend to Luther K. Johnston. They spent the early years of their marriage in Fort Wayne until moving to Churubusco in 1933.

A former employee of Sears Roebuck and Company in Fort Wayne, she was a retired employee of Whitley Products in South Whitley. She was a member of the Churubusco United Methodist Church, and had been active in its United Methodist Women. She was also a former member of the Pythian Sisters.

Mr. Johnston preceded her in death on May 12, 1983.

The surviving relatives include two daughters and a son-in-law, Joanne B. Johnston of Churubusco, and Karen and Ernest, Sr. "Gene" Dennison of Mulberry, Fla.; two sons, and daughters-in-law, Kenny and Martha Johnston of Kendallville, and Jack J. and Melba Johnston of Great Falls, Mont.; two brothers and a sister-in-law, Alfred Cripe and Delbert and Shirley Cripe, all of Columbia City; a sister and brother-in-law, Lucille and Donald Dodd of Constantine, Mich.; seven grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by five brothers, Charles, Earnie, Edgar, Eugene, and Robert R. Cripe; and by seven sisters, Mildred Brumbaugh, Marguerite Striegle, Dorothy Dodd, Elizabeth Boggs, Beverly Summers, Mary Frances Cripe, and Lillie Mae Cripe.

Janice Hittle

ALBION -- Janice L. Hittle, 59, of Albion, died at noon on Saturday, July 12, 2003, at Parkview Memorial Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Hittle was born in Hammond, Indiana on January 17, 1944, the daughter of James E. and Inez (Sweet) Kiger. She graduated from Morton High School in Hammond in 1961 and from Indiana State University in 1965 with degrees in English and math.

On April 30, 1966, she married Paul A. Hittle in Hobart, Indiana, and he preceded her in death on June 22, 2003. She was employed by the Central Noble School Corporation. She taught English and math in Albion from 1967-1968. She then taught in Churubusco for the Smith-Green Community Schools from 1968-1972. Since that time, she had been employed by Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville in admissions and medical records.

Mrs. Hittle is survived by her mother, Inez Kiger of Hammond, a son, Dan (Sharon) Hittle of Lombard, Illinois, and a daughter, Arlene Hittle of Flagstaff, Arizona. Along with her husband, she was preceded in death by her father and a brother.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, at the Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco with the Rev. E. Vaughn Powell officiating.

Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 4-8 p.m. on Thursday.

Memorials may be given to the organization of the donor's choice.

Ralph Bickley

WOLCOTTVILLE – Ralph S. Bickley, 69, a former resident of Wolcottville and Kimmell, died Saturday July 5, 2003, at his home in Inverness, FL.

He retired as a rural mail carrier from the Wolcottville Post Office. He served in the Arm during the Korean War.

Mr. Bickley moved to Florida in August 2001. He was a former member of the Wolcottville Lions Club and was a member of the Rome City American Legion Post and the DAV.

He was born in Noble County September 14, 1933, to Herbert and Goldie (Rhinehart) Bickley, Sr. His first wife, Shirley Cary Bickley, died in March 1973. He then married Rosalee Johnson on June 8, 1991, and she survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Sue Ann Bickley of Granger and Tina and Larry Schermerhorn of Howe; three step-daughters and their spouses, Connie Woods of North Webster, Pam and John Wainwright of Wolcottville and Carol and Brent Horvarter of Sturgis, MI; two step-sons, Ronald Cundiff of LaGrange and Tim Cundiff of Howe; a sister, Juanita Braden of Albion; a brother, Herbert Bickley, Jr. of Fort Wayne; 14 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a sister, June Likens.

Services were held Friday, July 11, 2003, at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with the Rev. Richard Frederick officiating. Burial was in Woodruff Cemetery in Wolcottville.

Memorials are to LaGrange County Cancer Society or Hospice of Citrus County.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 2003 ALBION, INDIANA
16

Joseph Kiesling

ALBION – Joseph L. Kiesling, 46, a resident of High Lake, died Thursday afternoon, July 10, 2003, in Fort Wayne.

He was born on May 14, 1957, in Clear Field, Kentucky, a son of Robert L. "Tony" and Lecinda Miller Kiesling. After completing his education, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served until 1977.

On January 24, 1991, he was married to Judith J. Curce, and for the past two and one half years they have resided at High Lake in Noble County.

Mr. Kiesling was currently employed at the Midwest Precision Machining Company in Fort Wayne. He was also a tattoo artist.

The surviving relatives include his wife, Judith; a son, Nick Kiesling of Moffat, TX; four daughters, Shannon Richowski in Colorado Springs, CO, Laura Kiesling from Columbia City, Kayla Kiesling of Albion, and a step-daughter, Mandy Edmondson from Salado, TX; two grandchildren; his parents, Cindy and Tony Kiesling from Columbia City; and two sisters, Tracey Carteaux in Columbia City and Amanda Kiesling of Redford, MI.

There will be no service. For those who wish, memorials may be made to the family.

Virginia Hazelwood

FORT WAYNE – Virginia L. Hazelwood, 81, died Friday, July 4, 2003, at her home.

She was a retired secretary for Dr. Bossard and a founder of Habitat for Humanity. She was a member of Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren.

Surviving are her husband, Joseph T. Hazelwood of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Elena Hinkson of Avilla; two brothers, Jack Shady of Fort Wayne and Fred Peck of Pleaston, CA; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Liane, and two sons, Steven and Jon.

Services were held Saturday, July 12, 2003, at Beacon Heights Church of the Brethren, with the Rev. Deann Brown officiating.

Burial was in the Decatur Cemetery.

Memorials are to Habitat for Humanity and Parkview Hospice.

Arrangements were by Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Home, Wayne Street Chapel.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana
JULY 17 2003

Charles Dudding

PORT ORANGE, Fla. — Charles William Dudding, 87, died Monday, July 14, 2003.

After graduation from Mishawaka High School, he graduated from Purdue University in 1938 with honors, and a degree in chemical engineering. Upon graduation, he joined Republic Steel Corp. in Chicago and worked there for 43 years.

Mr. Dudding

Mr. Dudding was a member of the Boy Scouts of America and had completed the qualification for his Eagle Scout Award.

He was born June 5, 1916, in Mishawaka, the son of Wilfrid and Gladys (Doolittle) Dudding. The Duddings were Kendallville residents for many years until their deaths. In 1942, he married Daisy Eloise Armstrong. She survives.

Also surviving are three daughters and a son-in-law, Christine W. Dudding of Winter Park, Fla., Janet E. Dudding of Port Orange, and Kathryn and Randy Briasco of Glen Ellyn, Ill.; five grandchildren and their spouses, Aaron and Kristin of Chicago, Maya of Orlando, Alex of Winter Park, and Jenna and Hayley of Glen Ellyn; two great-grandchildren; a brother, Richard Dudding of St. Joseph, Mich.; and numerous nieces and nephews who reside in Indiana and Michigan.

He was preceded in death by a brother, John Dudding.

The family will greet friends in the chapel of Grace Episcopal Church, 4110 S. Ridgewood, Port Orange, at 3 p.m.

Memorials are to Hospice of Volusia-Flagler, 3800 Woodbriar Terrace, Port Orange, FL 32129, or to the donor's choice.

Alavon of Daytona Beach is in charge of arrangements.

Martha Addis

ALBION — Martha A. Addis died at 1:45 a.m. Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at Marquette Manor Nursing Home in Indianapolis.

She had live in Indianapolis the last nine years.

Mrs. Addis was born in Wabash to Otto and Mae (Shambaugh) Bright.

Her husband, Guy Addis, died in 1977.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Jack B. and Eleanor Pence of Indianapolis; a daughter, Gail Pence; a granddaughter, Christine Pence; and a brother and two sisters-in-law, Allen and Mary Louise Bright and Edna Bright.

Also preceding her in death was a brother, Gene Bright.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Brazzell Funeral Home, Albion, with the Rev. Dan Carlson officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

Calling will be from 5-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Noble House or the Noble County Humane Shelter.

The following obituary is being reprinted because of incorrect information provided to The News-Sun.

Helen Weimer

KENDALLVILLE — Helen M. Weimer, 88, died Monday, July 14, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. Weimer

Mrs. Weimer was a homemaker.

She was born Dec. 18, 1914, in Green Center to Alva and Effie (Cristlieb) Herendeen. On Aug. 2, 1936, she married Harold F. Weimer in Albion. He died Feb. 14, 1982.

She had lived in the area 66 years and attended Wayne Center United Methodist Church.

Surviving are a daughter, Jan Gibson of Kendallville; two sons and daughters-in-law, Donald and Gloria Weimer and Harold and Darlene Hunt, all of Kendallville; 12 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Betty Stroh, and two brothers, Donald Herendeen and Darrel Herendeen.

Services will be at 1:30 p.m. today at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville, with the Rev. Gene Flickinger of Wayne Center United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in Sweet Cemetery, Albion.

Preferred memorials are to Parkview Home Health & Hospice, 109 E. Central Ave., LaGrange, IN 46761.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 17 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Lucy Eash

SHIPSHEWANA — Lucy J. Eash, 92, died at 9:10 a.m. Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at Wengerd Home Care in Shipshewana, where she had lived since June 1. She had formerly resided in Honeyville.

Miss Eash had worked at Das Dutchman Essenhaus as a cook and also did rug weaving. She was a member of the Old Order Amish Church.

She was born Feb. 28, 1911, in Millersburg to John H. and Ida (Beachy) Eash.

Surviving are a sister and brother-in-law, Katie and Dan Hochstetler of Topeka; a brother and sister-in-law, Neal and Wilma Eash of Shipshewana; and several nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by four brothers, Levi, Tobe, her twin Lewis, and Eli Eash; and three sisters, Lena Bontrager, Fannie Frey and Esther Bontrager.

Services will be at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the Ervin A. Bontrager residence, 9775 W. C.R. 400S, Honeyville, with Bishop Sam Beechy officiating. Burial will be at Townline Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling will be after 2 p.m. today and all day Friday at the Bontrager residence.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury, is in charge of arrangements.

The following obituary is being reprinted to provide additional information from the funeral home.

Wava Robertson

GARRETT — Wava R. Robertson, 89, died Tuesday, July 15, 2003, in Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Mrs. Robertson was a seamstress at Wirk Garment in Ligonier and had worked for the DeKalb County Council on Aging from 1986-1996.

She was born Dec. 1, 1913, in Kendallville to Arthur and Emma (Snyder) Franklin. Her husband, James, died in 1956.

Surviving are three sons, Donald Jones and Richard Jones, both of Fort Wayne, and James Robertson of Garrett; one sister, Elsie Linthicum of Goshen; 22 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by a daughter, Martha Turner; a son, Arthur Jones; three brothers, Bernard Franklin, James Franklin and Arthur Franklin; and three sisters, Lucille Gage, Patricia McCoy and Mary Gienger.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla, with the Rev. Dan Carlson officiating. Burial will be in Hooper-King Cemetery, Avilla.

Calling will be from 6-8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Kidney Foundation.

Estill Rash Jr.

ANTWERP, Ohio — Estill L. "Junior" Rash Jr., 67, died Monday, July 14, 2003, at his home.

He had work for more than 22 years at GM in Fort Wayne and nine years at GM in Defiance, and was a member of the Antwerp congregation of Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Mr. Rash was born May 2, 1936, in Bluefield, W.Va., to Allie (Pruett) and Estill L. Rash Sr. In 1961, he married Tommi Flores. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, JoAnn Coughlin of Antwerp; three brothers, Tom and Kenny Rash, both of Fort Wayne, and George Rash of Indianapolis; four sisters, Mary Helen Cortner of Rome City, Phyllis Yager of Oregon, and Kathleen Boylen and Katherine Jones, both of Fort Wayne; and two grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses with Jake Osborn officiating.

Memorials are to Paulding County Area Visiting Nurses & Hospice.

Dooley Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 17 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

June Rowe

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. — June Eloise Rowe, 83, died Monday, July 7, 2003, at Lakeland Regional Medical Center. She was a former Wolcottville resident.

Mrs. Rowe was a homemaker and member of Wolcottville United Methodist Church and St. John's United Methodist Church in Winter Haven.

She had lived in Winter Haven seven years.

Mrs. Rowe was born Feb. 25, 1920, in South Milford to William and Flossie (Lieberenz) Keck.

Surviving are a daughter, Judy Rowe of Winter Haven.

Services will be held at a later date.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association or St. John's United Methodist Church, 1800 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven, FL 33884.

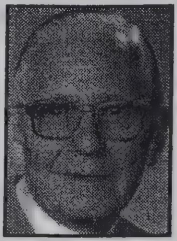
Condolences may be e-mailed to www.oakridgefuneralcare.com.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 18 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Harold McCoy

CHURUBUSCO — Harold O. McCoy, 86, died at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at The Oaks in Columbia City following a lengthy illness.

Mr. McCoy and his father founded McCoy's Feeds Inc. and the McCoy Lumber Co., both in Churubusco.


Mr. McCoy

In 1956 the McCoys sold the feed mill and closed their lumber company. They then built the former Churubusco Super-Valu, the Churubusco Laundromat and the former Family Restaurant on the site of the lumber company.

Mr. McCoy and his son, Jerry, owned McCoy Realty in Churubusco for several years.

He was a member of Churubusco United Methodist Church, a charter member and past president of the Churubusco Rotary Club, past president of the Churubusco Chamber of Commerce, past chief of the Churubusco Volunteer Fire Department, and past president of the Fort Wayne Air Stream Travel Club.

Mr. McCoy was a former member of the Smith Township Advisory Board and had served as a director and stockholder of the Churubusco State Bank.

He was born April 28, 1917, in Noble County the son of Orlo E. and Cora Naomi (Cooley) McCoy. He graduated from Churubusco High School in 1935. On June 26, 1938, he married Sylvelda L. Egolf. She died Sept. 21, 1993.

Suviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Jerry and Beverly McCoy of Winona Lake; a daughter and son-in-law, Coreen and Fred Gilbert of Fort Wayne; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Churubusco United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs, officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Calling will be from 2-6 p.m. Saturday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home, and one hour before services at the church Sunday.

Memorials are to Churubusco United Methodist Church or to Heartland Home Health Care and Hospice, Fort Wayne.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Charles Fredrickson

HARRISBURG, Ark. — Charles R. Fredrickson, 65, died Monday, July 14, 2003, at his home following an extended illness.

Surviving are his wife, Alicia; four daughters and three sons-in-law, Laura and Johnny Huff of Wawaka, Anna and Terry Slone of Fayetteville, Tenn., Jennifer and Bob Jacobs of Ligonier, and Charlene Fredrickson of Rome City; a son, Charles R. Fredrickson Jr. of Goshen; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A local prayer service is pending.

John Nisley

LAGRANGE — John C. Nisley, 74, died Thursday, July 17, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Nisley was a retired farmer and member of the Old Order Amish Church. He has moved from Goshen to the LaGrange area in 1952.

He was born April 20, 1929, in Goshen to Cephas adn Millie (Hochstetler) Nisley. On Nov. 27, 1952, he married Barbara Ellen Miller in Topeka. She survives.

Also surviving are four daughters and a son-in-law, Lillian Nisley and Lorene Nisley, both of LaGrange, Mary Etta Nisley of Topeka, and Gertie and Harvey Nisley of Mendon, Mich.; four sons and daughters-in-law, Paul and Mary Etta Nisley and Vernon and Sara Mae Nisley, all of Topeka, Freeman and Mary Esther Nisley of Wolcottville, and Joe adn Lou Ella Nisley of Millersburg; three sisters; Mary Anna Yoder of Nappanee, Esther Nisley of Goshen, and Fannie Mae Hochstetler of Goshen; two brothers, Ray Nisley of Sarasota, Fla., and Willis Nisley of Three Rivers, Mich., 27 grandchildren and two great-grandchidren.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Sunday at the Monroe Bontrager residence, 2585 S. C.R. 200E, LaGrange, with Amish Bishops Ralph Shrock and Alva Bontrager officiating. Burial will be in Oak Hill Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be after 4 p.m. today and all day Saturday at the Nisley home at 2655 S. C.R. 200S.

Arrangements are by Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 18 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Donald Miller

BIG RAPIDS, Mich. — Donald K. Miller, 81, died Thursday, July 17, 2003, at Mecosta County General Hospital.

Mr. Miller was a 1940 graduate of Auburn High School. He had been employed at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo and retired as chief engineer of Ferris State University in Big Rapids after more than 20 years of service.

He enjoyed outdoor activities, hunting, fishing, boating and piloting airplanes. He and his wife also hosted several foreign exchange students in their home.

He was a member of the Lions Club and the First United Methodist Church of Big Rapids.

He was born June 1, 1922, in DeKalb County to Clyde and Mae (Carahan) Miller.

He married Geraldine M. "Geri" Stomm on May 2, 1942 in Hudson. Together, they made their home in both Indiana and Michigan, moving to Big Rapids in 1956. She died May 29, 2000.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Jeffrey and Karen Miller of Denison, Texas; a grandson, Ryan Miller of Denison, Texas; a sister, Annabelle Campbell of Fremont; three sisters-in-law and their spouses, Helen and Van Ransburg of Hudson, Beverly and Robert Farver of Ashley and LuAnn Miller of Farmington, Mich.; several nieces and nephews; and two foreign exchange students, Timo Haikonen of Finland and Per-Olaf Wasteson of Sweden.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Marie Smith and Helen Weicker, five brothers, Paul Miller, Leon James, Jake Miller, Merle Miller and John Miller, and his parents.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday in Circle Cemetery of Hudson, with the Rev. John Kabes officiating.

Calling is today from 4:30-6:30 p.m. (Indiana times) at the Daggett-Gilbert Funeral Home, Big Rapids. A final prayer and blessing will be offered by the Rev. Robert Jones at the conclusion of calling.

Memorials are to Home Hospice of Michigan or St. John's United Church of Christ, Ashley.

Marjorie Saurer

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Marjorie June Saurer, 87, died Sunday, July 6, 2003, in Columbia.

Mrs. Saurer was born to Oscar and Vella (Metzler) Matson in Pleasant Lake on Aug. 21, 1915.

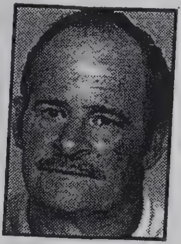
She was married to Reuben F. Saurer, who preceded her in death in 1977.

The Saurers lived and raised their family in Charlotte, Mich.

Surviving are three sons, John O., Richard F. and Robert C. Saurer; two brothers, Clark and Donald Matson, both of Avilla; seven grandchildren, Cylinda Haskins, Craig Saurer, Christie deNicola, John R. Saurer, Mark Saurer, Jill Turnier and Nanette Justice; and 15 great-grandchildren, Taylor Haskins, Spencer Haskins, Michael Saurer, Leslie Saurer, Kaley deNicola, Theodore deNicola, Christopher deNicola, John deNicola, Anna Marjorie Saurer, Dori Turnier, Sydney Turnier, Lauren Justice, Hannah Justice, Tara Justice and Tanner Justice.

Services will be in August at the Burkhead-Green Funeral Home in Charlotte.

Melvin Wilson


Mr. Wilson

HUNTERTOWN — Melvin Earl Wilson, 80, died at 11:45 a.m. Thursday, July 17, 2003, at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Wilson was a painter at Structural Steel in Fort Wayne, worked at G. I. Case in Churubusco, and retired in 1985 after 20 years as a fork-lift operator at Sheller Globe in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Wilson served in the U.S. Army during World War II in Normandy, France, the Rhineland, and central Europe.

While in Europe, he was taken prisoner of war.

He was born in Huntertown on March 2, 1923, to Vern and Bessie (DeWitt) Wilson. On Oct. 23, 1943, he married Mary A. Simmons in Florida. Following his discharge from the Army, the couple moved to Huntertown.

Surviving are his wife; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Don and Susan Wilson of Columbia City and Tom Wilson of Huntertown; two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco, with the Rev. Craig Myers officiating. Burial will be in Huntertown Cemetery.

Calling will be from 4-8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Memorial are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

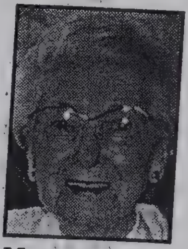
Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana

JULY 18 2003

Jewel Everett

MARION — Jewel M. Everett, 96, died at 11:10 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at Heartland Regional Medical Center in Marion.



Mrs. Everett

Mrs. Everett was a member of Central Baptist Church in Hobart. She retired from the J.C. Penney Co. after 27 years. She was a partner with her son in a Coast to Coast hardware store in Kendallville.

She was born Feb. 24, 1907, in Pittsburg, the daughter of John H. and Lina (Smiley) Williams. She married George Everett on June 11, 1927. He preceded her in death on June 8, 1979.

Suviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Leonard and Gloria Everett of Rome City; a sister, Maude Ellis of Johnston City; five granddaughters, Lynett Rogers, Georgia Fawcett, Bridget Boszor, Laurie Rinkle and Judith Everett; and two great-granddaughters, Elizabeth Ann Fawcett and Ashleigh Rogers.

She was also preceded in death by seven sisters.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Murman & Wilson Funeral Home, Johnston City, with the Rev. Joey Brent officiating. Burial will be in No. 8 Cemetery in Pittsburg.

Calling will be one hour prior to services Saturday.

Memorials are to the First Baptist Church in Marion, or to Parkway Manor in Marion.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 19 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Billie Norris

NORTH PORT, Fla. — Billie W. Norris, 76, died Wednesday, July 16, 2003.

Mr. Norris retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1970 as a chief master sergeant, then retired from International Harvester in 1986, where he was chief of plant production. He was a Catholic and belonged to the Roanoke American Legion Post 160.

He was born March 20, 1927, to William and Zelma (Bolinger) Norris in Roanoke.

He is survived by his wife, Marge Megles-Norris of North Port; four sons and three daughters-in-law, Russell Norris of Fort Wayne, Vincent and Maureen Norris of Louisville, Ky., Mark and Susan Norris of Kendallville and William and Vicki Norris of Columbus; two daughters and sons-in-law, Denise and Edward Heffner of Fort Wayne and Lisa and Peter Taviano of Visalia, Calif., two stepsons and daughters-in-law, James and Janet Megles of Fort Wayne and Edward and Tammy Megles of Olathe, Kan.; two stepdaughters and sons-in-law, Linda and David Bierbaum of Fort Wayne and Laura and Ryland Taliafrerro of Fort Wayne; nine grandchildren; four stepgrandchildren; a great-grandson; and two sisters, Wilma Simon and Donna Nix, both of Columbia City.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Orphine Norris; a brother, Garl Norris; and a sister, Betty Rayls.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Farley Funeral Home — North Port Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials are to Hospice of Southwest Florida, 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34238.

Travis Gayheart

LAGRANGE — Travis A. Gayheart, 18, died at 9:15 p.m. on Thursday, July 17, 2003, at U.S. 20 and C.R. 300E as a result of an accident in an all-terrain vehicle.

Mr. Gayheart was an avid deer hunter and fisherman. He used to be on the wrestling team at Lakeland High School and played softball and soccer in the Westedge soccer league during elementary school.

Mr. Gayheart

He was born July 31, 1984, to Bill Jr. and Tammy Gayheart in LaGrange. They survive.

Also surviving are a sister, Brittany Gayheart of LaGrange; four grandparents, Bill and Ruby Gayheart Sr. of Wolcottville and Howard and Pat Taylor of Howe; three great-grandmothers, Anna Gayheart of Auburn, Louise Russell of Howe and Johnnie Taylor of Turrell, Ark.; an uncle, Stanley Gayheart of White Pigeon, Mich.; and an aunt, Robin Levitz of Wolcottville.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at First Church of God in LaGrange. The Rev. David Bell will officiate. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in LaGrange.

Rebecca Driscoll

WAWAKA — Rebecca "Reba" Driscoll, 38, died at 11:23 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, 2003, in LaGrange Community Hospital.

Mrs. Driscoll was employed at Nisco, was a teacher's assistant in the preschool at Wawaka United Methodist Church and enjoyed NASCAR.

Mrs. Driscoll

She was born Feb. 16, 1965, to Homer and Eda (Whitaker) England in Kendallville. She married Patrick Driscoll on Aug. 4, 1984, in Wawaka. He survives.

Also surviving are two daughters, Danielle Driscoll of Wawaka and Amber Driscoll of Wawaka; a son, Jerry Driscoll of Wawaka; her mother, Eda England of Syracuse; three brothers, Jeff England of Albion, Homer B. England of Kendallville and Ken England of Syracuse; a sister, Susie Tyner of Warsaw; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier. The Rev. Jimmy Robbins will officiate. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery in Albion.

Calling will be 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family, with envelopes available at the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 19 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Donald Knapp

CROMWELL — Donald Eugene Knapp, 85, died at 10:10 p.m. Thursday, July 17, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Knapp drove a school bus in Noble County for 16 years, operated his own farm and worked at Dana Weatherhead Co. in Columbia City for 19 1/2 years before retiring in 1986. He was a member of Ormas Baptist Church for more than 40 years and was well-known, with his wife, for creating Christian gospel chalk drawings. He was a lifelong resident of Noble County and lived in the Knapp Lake area from 1940 to 1993, when he entered Miller's Merry Manor Nursing Home in Columbia City. In 1999, he transferred to Byron Health Care Center in Fort Wayne.

He was born Oct. 14, 1917, to Cecil E. and Vicie Gladys (Howell) Knapp in Ligonier. He attended school in Washington Township and graduated from Wolf Lake High School in 1938. He married Ilene Elizabeth Bainbridge on Oct. 20, 1940, in Columbia City. She preceded him in death on Jan. 18, 1994.

Also preceding him in death were a brother, Charles Darwin Knapp, who died in 1999; his parents; and his stepmother, Vesta Beryl Fry Knapp.

He is survived by two brothers and sisters-in-law, James Nelson and Jean Knapp of Fort Wayne and Calvin G. and Helen Knapp of Fort Myers, Fla.; a sister and brother-in-law, Viola and Billy Weicht of Pierceton; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City. Pastor Mike Allen will officiate. Burial will be at the Oak Grove (Compton) Cemetery in Columbia City.

Calling will be 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Ormas Baptist Church. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home.

See www.demoneygrimes.com for more information or to send condolences or sign the guestbook.

Services Held

AVILLA — Services for **Richard "Dick" Hippenhammer** were held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, with the Rev. Leonard King officiating. Burial was in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Max Christensen, Ray Grocock, Ron Pauley, Jim Krock, Fred Demske and Harold Johnson.

Honorary pallbearers were Kyle Johnson, Ed Hindenlang, Dick Grate and Mike McArdle.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Helen M. Weimer** were held at 1:30 p.m. Thursday at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home, with the Rev. Gene Flickinger officiating. Burial was in Sweet Cemetery, Albion.

Pallbearers were Bob Bering, Darel Fike, Gene Leighty, Bruce Edwards, Jim Tucker and Mark Howe.

George Pugh

OSSIAN — George J. Pugh, 82, died Thursday, July 17, 2003, in Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Mr. Pugh was a forklift driver for 27 years, retiring in 1985 from Dana Spicer Axle in Fort Wayne. He was a member of Community Christian Fellowship and American Legion 111 in Bluffton. He was an elder at church and a founding elder of New Church. His hobbies were photography, woodworking, camping and fishing. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II.

He was born Sept. 12, 1920, to Shirley E. and Bessie (Ferguson) Pugh in Bluffton. He married Violet J. Pugh on March 24, 1940 in Bluffton. She survives in Ossian.

Also surviving are a son, Larry D. Pugh of Ossian; and two daughters, Janece L. Osborn of Sand Springs, Okla., and Sandra K. Cochran of Fort Wayne.

He was preceded in death by two sisters and three brothers.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Community Christian Fellowship in Bluffton. Dr. Bryson "Gene" Bell will officiate. Burial will be in Oak Lawn Cemetery in Ossian.

Calling will be 2 to 7 p.m. Sunday at Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home in Ossian and one hour prior to services at the church.

Memorials are to the church building fund.

The following obituary is being rerun for a clarification.

Jewel Everett

MARION, Ill. — Jewel M. Everett, 96, died at 11:10 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at Heartland Regional Medical Center in Marion, Ill.

Mrs. Everett was a member of Central Baptist Church in Hobart. She retired from the J.C. Penney Co. after 27 years. She was a partner with her son in a Coast to Coast hardware store in Kendallville.

She was born Feb. 24, 1907, in Pittsburg, Ill., the daughter of John H. and Lina (Smiley) Williams. She married George Everett on June 11, 1927. He preceded her in death on June 8, 1979.

Suviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Leonard and Gloria Everett of Rome City; a sister, Maude Ellis of Johnston City, Ill.; five granddaughters, Lynett Rogers, Georgia Fawcett, Bridget Boszor, Laurie Tinkle and Judith Everett; and two great-granddaughters, Elizabeth Ann Fawcett and Ashleigh Rogers.

She was also preceded in death by seven sisters.

Services will be at 11 a.m. today at Murman & Wilson Funeral Home, Johnston City, with the Rev. Joey Brent officiating. Burial will be in No. 8 Cemetery in Pittsburg.

Calling will be one hour prior to services.

Memorials are to the First Baptist Church in Marion, Ill., or to Parkway Manor in Marion.

The following obituary is being reprinted to provide additional information.

June Rowe

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. — June Eloise Rowe, 83, died Monday, July 7, 2003, at Lakeland Regional Medical Center. She was a former Wolcottville resident.

Mrs. Rowe was a homemaker and member of Wolcottville United Methodist Church and St. John's United Methodist Church in Winter Haven.

She had lived in Winter Haven seven years.

Mrs. Rowe was born Feb. 25, 1920, in South Milford to William and Flossie (Lieberenz) Keck. On Oct. 3, 1942, in Valentine, she married Robert P. Rowe. He survives in Winter Haven.

Also surviving are a daughter, Judy Rowe of Winter Haven.

Services will be held at a later date.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association or St. John's United Methodist Church, 1800 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven, FL 33884.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.oakridgefuneralcare.com.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 20 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

David Martin spent life helping people

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ASHLEY — David Martin died trying to help another person.

But that was how he had lived his whole life.

"He would have helped anybody who needed it, no matter if he knew them well or not," said Martin's aunt, Alice Lepley. "He was a good guy. That's just the way he was."

David A. Martin, 34, died Sunday, July 6, 2003, as the result of a drowning accident. When he drowned, he was attempting to help out a 5-year-old boy who was swimming in the same pond. The boy was the son of Martin's ex-wife's daughter, Chris Russell, but Lepley said he considered the boy his grandson.

"In the family, there are a lot of relations that are just by marriage," Lepley said. "But he never classified anyone as a 'step' anything. He said that was because he never stepped on anyone."

Lepley said she never heard her nephew say a bad word about anyone.

"I never heard him talk bad about people, never heard him complain or put anyone down," she said. "He had some problems in his life — like we all do — and you know, sometimes there are people who try to blame their troubles on everyone else. He would never do that."

Mr. Martin was born July 9, 1968, in Mt. Pleasant, Mich., to Stephen A. and Anna (Blodgett) Martin. He worked for Caudill Salvage in Flint.

Tritch instilled values of love, commitment

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

PLEASANT LAKE — When Wanda and Harold Tritch's daughter, Bonnie Gardner, got married to her husband Thomas many years ago, they wanted to make sure Bonnie knew what marriage meant.

"It wasn't that they didn't love me," Bonnie said. "But I remember them telling me on the day I got married that it was forever — there was no going home. They told me I was going to have to work through my problems in my marriage, just like they had."

Mrs. Tritch

Wanda E. Batterson Tritch, 79, died Sunday, July 13, 2003, at her home. Bonnie said her mother had been in failing health for a short time, and that she had succumbed to kidney failure.

"My parents were married for 51 years," Bonnie said. "They were happy and they loved each other. That's special — especially nowadays. It doesn't seem like that happens all that often anymore."

Mrs. Tritch was a good mother, and her children had good childhoods, Bonnie said.

"I think we did," she said. "Of course, there are always times when you don't get along with your parents, but most of my memories are good."

Mrs. Tritch was a homemaker and a gifted pianist — so gifted, in fact, that daughters Christina and Diana said "she could have played concerts at Carnegie Hall."

"I don't know about that," Bonnie said with a chuckle. "But she was one of those people who could pick up music by ear. I definitely didn't get that talent from her."

She was a member of the Angola Christian Church. She loved gardening and doing word search puzzles. She also loved traveling with her beloved husband and children.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 20 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Monna Lou Thompson

ROME CITY — Monna Lou Thompson, 70, died Saturday, July 19, 2003, at the Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville.

On Sept. 24, 1932, in Goshen, she was born to Demas and Evelyn (Huff) Giant. She married Richard Thompson on Dec. 15, 1951, in Wawaka. He survives.

She worked for Essex Wire for 12 years and then worked at the Rome City School cafteria for 10 years.

Mrs. Thompson was a member of the Rome City United Methodist Church and an active member of the Emmaus Community at the church. She was a volunteer at Helping Hands, a member of the American Legion Poct 381 Auxiliary in Rome City, and a member of the V.F.W. Post 2749 Auxiliary in Kendallville.

Surviving, in addition to her husband, are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Mark and Laurie Thompson, and Mike Thompson, all of Rome City; a brother, Richard Giant, of Tennessee; and two grandsons, Cody and Brock Thompson, both of Rome City.

A brother and a grandson preceded her in death.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Rome City United Methodist Church in Rome City with Rev Mike McKinney officiating. Burial will be at a later date.

Calling is one hour before the service at the church.

Memorials are to Helping Hands or the Rome City United Methodist Church.

Condolences or to sign the online guest book got to: www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Virginia Owens

KENDALLVILLE — Virginia L. Owens, 90, died Saturday, July 19, 2003, at the Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville.

On June 12, 1913, in Kendallville, she was born to Laurel and Berniece (Kline) Easterday.

She was retired from McCray Memorial Hospital dietary department after 18 years, and a member of the New Hope Christian Church, Waterloo.

Mrs. Owens

Surviving are: two brothers, James and Robert Easterday, both of Kendallville; two sisters, Mae Hubartt, of Warren, Ind., and Frances Gillespie, of Kendallville; two granddaughters, Natalie Gutierrez Heron, and Trina Amburgey, both of Kendallville; three grandsons, John Fracaro and Dwight Miller, both of Kendallville, and Stephen Brady, of Waterloo; and eight great-grandchildren.

A son, three daughters, a brother, Laurel Easterday, and three sisters, Betty Johoski, Donnabelle Parent and Georgianna Easterday, preceeded her in death.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, with burial at Lake View Cemetery. Calling is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to New Hope Christian Center, Waterloo.

Condolences and to sign the online guest book go to: www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Walter Maloney

ALBION — Walter E. Maloney, 84, of Albion, died at 8:36 p.m. Friday, July 18, 2003, at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana, Fort Wayne.

Mr. Maloney

On Aug. 13, 1918, in Albion, he was born to Edwin M. and Lera (Shew) Maloney. He married Fay Wilson on Sept. 8, 1978. She survives.

He was a lifetime Albion resident and executive vice president of Albion National Bank from 1940 to 1984.

Mr. Maloney was salutatorian of the Albion High School class of 1936, and a 1940 graduate with distinction of Manchester College.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, a member of American Legion Post 246 in Albion, Trinity United Methodist Church in Albion, a Prayer Breakfast leader for 20 years, church treasurer for 10 years and a former member of Albion Rotary Club.

He enjoyed traveling, bird watching and was a diehard "Cubbie" fan.

Also surviving are a stepdaughter and step-son-in-law, Carla and Bret Frymier, of Albion; a stepson, Walter W. Wilson, of Kendallville; and seven stepgrandchildren.

A stepdaughter, Lisa Stahlhut, preceeded him in death.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Trinity United Methodist Church, Albion, with the Rev. Dr. Dan Barker officiating. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

Calling is 2 to 5 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Brazzell Funeral Home, Albion, and one hour prior to services at the church.

Memorials are to the Albion Trinity Memorial Fund.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana
JULY 20 2003

Genevieve Thompson

TOPEKA — Genevieve B. Thompson, 76, of 3580W C.R. 600S, Topeka, died Friday, July 18, 2003, at Life Care Center, LaGrange.

In Porter County, Ind., on April 29, 1927, she was born to Harvey and Beulah (Wygant) Prough. She married Robert B. Thompson in Topeka on Sept. 14, 1946. He survives.

She moved from Goshen to Topeka in 1946 and was a homemaker and member of Topeka United Methodist Church.

Surviving, in addition to her husband, are a daughter and son-in-law, Marsha and John Huckins, Granger, Ind.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Mark and Sharla Thompson, and Clifford and Suzanne Thompson, all of Topeka; a brother, Clifford Prough, Goshen; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

A brother, Lester Prough, preceeded her in death.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Topeka United Methodist Church in Topeka with the Rev. Bob Wyman officiating. Burial will be in Eden Cemetery, Topeka.

Calling is 4 to 8 p.m. Monday at Topeka United Methodist Church, Topeka.

Memorials are to Westview School Corporation Dollars for Scholars.

Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 21 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Karl Wrogeman

FORT WAYNE — Karl F. Wrogeman, 80, died Saturday, July 19, 2003, at Regency Place Nursing Home.

Mr. Wrogeman was born Nov. 20, 2003, in Fort Wayne, to Henry and Gisella (Heretch) Wrogeman. He was married to Phyllis (Kaade) Wrogeman, and she survives.

He retired in 1982 from Tokheim Corp., and had previously worked at Magnavox Corp. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, and served in World War II.

He was a member of Concordia Lutheran Church, American Legion Post No. 47 and Fort Wayne Turners.

Also surviving are a daughter, Karla Mozena of Fort Wayne; a son and daughter-in-law, Craig and Karen Wrogeman of Lake George; his twin brother, Paul Wrogeman of Fort Wayne; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Concordia Lutheran Church, 4245 Lake Ave., Fort Wayne, with the Rev. Karl Frincke officiating. Calling will be two hours before services at the church.

Burial will be in Concordia Cemetery Gardens.

Arrangements were by Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, Fort Wayne.

Memorials are to Concordia Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne Turners or Turnstone Center for Disabled Children and Adults.

John LeFever

CHURUBUSCO — John A. LeFever, 68, died at 6:45 p.m. Saturday, July 19, 2003, at his home.

Mr. LeFever retired from Dana Corp. after 38 years of service. He was a member of the Army National Guard and had been a Whitley County 4-H leader.

He has supported Churubusco Young Wrestling teams, and enjoyed woodworking, crafts, traveling, hunting and fishing.

Mr. LeFever was born Aug. 12, 1934, in Columbia City to Ralph and Mildred A. (Decker) LeFever. On Oct. 20, 1954, in Fort Wayne, he married Agnes Waterson. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Mary and George Dafforn of Churubusco; three sons and daughters-in-law, Roger and Peggy LeFever, Kevin and Mary LeFever and Randy and JoAnn LeFever, all of Churubusco; two brothers, Ralph and Bob LeFever, both of Churubusco; four sisters, Beverly Harris, Peggy Thompson and Kathy LeFever, all of Churubusco, and Karen LeFever of Columbia City; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Orr Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dr. Lane Burgland officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home, and one hour before services Wednesday.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Services Held

AVILLA — Services for **Richard "Dick" Hippenhammer** were held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Brazzell Funeral Home, with the Rev. Leonard King officiating. Burial was in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

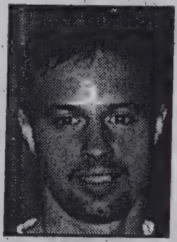
Pallbearers were Max Christensen, Ray Grocock, Ron Pauley, Jim Krock, Fred Demske and Harold Johnson.

Honorary pallbearers were Kyle Johnson, Ed Hindenlang, Dike Grate, Mike McArdle, Tanner Hippenhammer and Kendall Hippenhammer.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 22 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Marvin Yoder

BRISTOL — Marvin Dean Yoder, 37, died at 4:50 p.m. Sunday at Dukes Memorial Hospital, Peru, of injuries he sustained in a car-motorcycle accident.


Mr. Yoder

He was the owner of M&L Custom Homes and co-owner of Northridge Health & Fitness in Middlebury.

Mr. Yoder loved riding Harley-Davidson motorcycles and was an avid hunter and fisherman.

He was born Nov. 10, 1965, in LaGrange to David J. and Ida (Troyer) Yoder. They survive in Shipshewana. On March 11, 1989, he married Lori Oswald at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Middlebury. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Bradon Yoder and Caleb Yoder, both at home; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Marilyn and Richard Miller of Shipshewana, Carolyn and Felty Slabach of Middlebury and Betty and Harley Yoder of Shipshewana; and two brothers and sisters-in-law, Vernon and Ruth Yoder and David Wayne and Rebekah Yoder, all of Shipshewana.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Bert and Bertie Troyer and Jacob and Sarah Yoder.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Middlebury, with Senior Pastor James F. Simpson officiating. Burial will be in Grace Lawn Cemetery, Middlebury.

Calling will be from 6-8 p.m. today and 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury, and from 9-10 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Memorials are to ABATE (American Bikers Aimed Toward Education).

Judith High

LITHIA SPRINGS, Ga. — Judith Mae High, 61, died Sunday, July 20, 2003.

She was born Nov. 12, 1941, in Butler, to Vernon and Helen Whitman.

Mrs. High was preceded in death by her father.

Surviving are her husband, Tom High; three daughters, Melody High of Villa Rica, Ga., Misty Thomas and Tiana Suddeth of Lithia Springs, Ga.; her mother, Helen Whitman; three brothers, Terry Whitman, Jimmy Whitman and Hank Ochoa, all of Indiana; six sisters, Janet Matson, Kim Topp, Mary Lou Scott, Rosemary Spunhour, Katie Whitman and Mary Helen Perez, all of Indiana; and nine grandchildren, Matthew Fowler, Casey Holland, Dusty Fowler, Tracy Thomas, Russell Thomas, Heather Landers, Jacob Thomas, Michael Thomas and Adriana Suddeth.

Services were at 11 a.m. today at the Roy Davis Funeral Home Chapel in Austell, Ga. Burial was in Melrose Hill Memorial Park.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 23 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Irma Lux

CHARLESTON, Mo. — Irma Louise Lux, 89, formerly of Memphis, Tenn., died Sunday, July 20, 2003, at Clearview Nursing Center in Sikeston.

She was a member of Hunter Memorial First Presbyterian Church in Sikeston.

Mrs. Lux was born Aug. 13, 1913, in Fort Wayne to Franklin and Jennie (Golden) Luther. She married John Joseph Lux on Aug. 14, 1943, in Chicago. He preceded her in death June 27, 2001.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, William and Marthalyn Lux of Sheffield, Ala.; a sister, Martha Ellen Lemmon of Albion; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were three brothers, Walter, Arthur and James Luther; and three sisters, Georgiana Braun, Ruth Bouse, and Rosella Plumb.

Memorial services will be at 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3, at Hunter Memorial First Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. Rufus McLean officiating.

Calling will be from 2-3 p.m. Aug. 3 at the church.

Memorials are to Scholarship Fund, Hunter Memorial First Presbyterian Church, 723 Allen Blvd., Sikeston, Mo. 63801.

Nunnelee Funeral Chapel of Sikeston is in charge of arrangements.

Ina Blanchard

ANGOLA — Ina M. Blanchard, 77, died Tuesday, July 22, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in Angola.

Mrs. Blanchard was born Oct. 30, 1925, in Charlotte, Mich., to Wyman and Lena (Trowbridge) Turner. She was a homemaker, and formerly worked at Bassett's Restaurant in Angola.

She enjoyed reading and spending time with her grandchildren, as well as visiting friends and family.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Doyle and Sherry Marten of Fremont and Ivan L. Blanchard of Garrett; two daughters and sons-in-law, Charmaine and Mike Kendall of Wawaka and Rosealee Tobart Mosley of Garrett; a daughter and her son, Ina M. and Jered Blanchard of Albion; a friend, Lewis Harmon of Angola; a brother, Robert Turner of Florida; a sister, Lucille Shepard of Battle Creek, Mich.; 18 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Beams Funeral Home, Fremont. Calling will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday.

Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery, Fremont.

Memorials are to donor's choice.

Sister Miriam Long

FRANKFORT, Ill. — Sister Miriam Joseph Long, O.S.F., 92, died Sunday, July 20, 2003. She had served at Sacred Heart Home in Avilla from 1939 to 1975.

She entered the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart Sept. 8, 1936, and made her first profession of vows on Oct. 4, 1939, and final profession of vows on Oct. 4, 1942.

At Avilla, she served as sacristan and organist from 1939 to 1953. From 1953 to 1975 she continued there as procurator and then as assistant administrator and accountant. In 1975 she moved to Frankfort where she was eventually appointed leader.

She retired in 1989, but continued to serve various ministries until 1994.

She was born Elizabeth Long on Dec. 27, 1910, in Freeport. She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles William and Elizabeth (Bach) Long, and a sister, Marie Long.

Services are today at Queen of Angels Chapel in Frankfort.

Memorials are to the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart Senior Retirement Fund, 9201 W. St. Francis Road, Frankfort, Ill. 60423-8335.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 23 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

David Franze

FORT WAYNE — David F. Franze, 46, died Tuesday, July 22, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a project manager and estimator for Morris Sheet Metal Co. He was a member of the Good Hope Catholic Church and a 23-year member of the Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 20.

Surviving are his wife, Jackie; a daughter, Amber Franze, at home; a son, Ben Franze, at home; his mother, Marge Turpchimoff of Fort Wayne; his father and stepmother, Frank and Donna Franze of Auburn; one sister, Barb O'Neill of Fort Wayne; and a brother, Gary Franze, Fort Wayne.

Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church, 7215 St. Joe Road, with visitation one hour prior to the service. Calling will be from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, 6131 St. Joe Road, with a Rosary service at 7 p.m.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association or Fort Wayne Children's Zoo-African Veldt.

Donna Henry

FORT WAYNE — Donna J. Henry, 80, died Tuesday, July 22, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

She was a Fort Wayne native, homemaker and member of St. Therese Catholic Church.

Surviving are her husband, Robert C. Henry of Fort Wayne; two sons, Stephen Henry of New Haven and James Henry of Avilla; a daughter, Patricia Wirges of Fort Wayne; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at St. Therese Catholic Church. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Thursday at Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Homes, Winchester Road Chapel, and one hour before services at the church Friday.

Memorials are to the church's building fund or Masses.

Glenn Burton

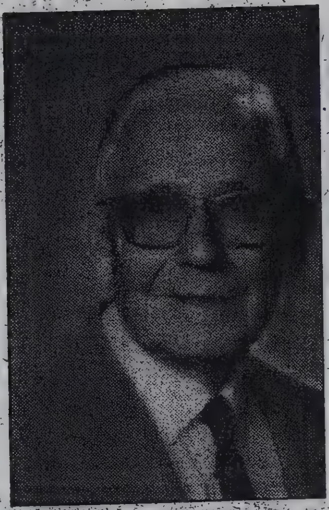
HOWE — Glenn Ray Burton, 68, died at 6:37 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

The Cincinnati native was a Navy veteran.

Surviving are his wife, Bobbie of Howe; three sons, Daniel Keith of Groton, Conn., Bradley Todd of Elkhart and Kenneth Lee of Howe; a brother, Roger Burton of Cincinnati; 13 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

There are no services.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 23 2003 ALBION, INDIANA



Harold McCoy

CHURUBUSCO -- Harold O. McCoy, 86, a prominent Churubusco businessman and community leader, died at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 17, 2003, at The Oaks in Columbia City, following a lengthy illness.

Mr. McCoy was born on April 28, 1917, in Green Township in Noble County the only son of Orlo E. and Cora Naomi Cooley McCoy, and spent his formative years in that community. He was educated in the former Huckleberry School in Noble County, and graduated from Churubusco High School in 1935.

Upon completing his education, he went to work for his father at McCoy's Hatchery in Churubusco and purchased an interest in the business the following year. As the business continued to prosper, he and his father founded and operated McCoy's Feeds, Inc. in Churubusco. They also purchased a lumber business in Churubusco from Lewis W. Scattergood, and founded the McCoy Lumber Company in Churubusco. The firm built many homes and businesses throughout the Churubusco area.

In 1956, he and his father sold their interest in their chicken hatchery and feed mill businesses, and after 30 years, closed their lumber business. They built Churubusco Super-Valu (now Mor For Less), Churubusco Laundromat, and the former Family Restaurant (now Brevins' Downtown Eatery) on the property of their former lumber business, and owned those businesses for several years. Mr. McCoy, along with his son, Jerry McCoy, also owned and operated McCoy Realty in Churubusco for a period. His nearly fifty continuous years in the lumber and real estate business allowed him to be responsible for the housing of countless area families, as well as the commerce development of the Town of Churubusco.

His life outside of his business and professional concerns was marked by community service and memberships in several organizations. He was a member of the Churubusco United Methodist Church, was a charter member and past president of the Churubusco Rotary Club, was past president of the Churubusco Chamber of Commerce, and was past chief of the Churubusco Volunteer Fire Department. He was past president of the Fort Wayne Air Stream Travel Club, and had traveled throughout the continental United States and Canada with that organization.

A former member of the Smith Township Advisory Board, he also served as a director and stockholder of the Churubusco State Bank for several years.

On June 26, 1938, he was married in Smith Township to Sylvelda L. Egolf. The couple spent their entire married life in Churubusco and had lived in 18 different residences in the Churubusco area during their 55 years of marriage. Mrs. McCoy preceded him in death on September 21, 1993.

The surviving relatives include his son and daughter-in-law, Jerry and Beverly McCoy of Winona Lake; his daughter and son-in-law, Coreen and Fred Gilbert of rural Fort Wayne; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sunday in the Churubusco United Methodist Church with Rev. Christine Newman-Jacobs, pastor, officiating.

Interment was in the Christian Chapel Cemetery, Merriam.

Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorials may be directed to the Churubusco United Methodist Church or to Heartland Home Health Care and Hospice, Fort Wayne.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Treva Bodey

FORT WAYNE - Treva A. Bodey, 95, died Friday, July 11, 2003, at The Towne House Health Center in Fort Wayne.

Born in Garrett, Mrs. Bodey was the owner and office manager of H.J. Bodey Inc. for 28 years before retiring in the Quota Club and the Rosary Society and was a member of St. John the Baptist Church.

Surviving are four brothers, John P. Mowry of New Haven, Wayne F. Mowry of Albion, Argyle "George" Mowry of Waterloo and Lionel "Bud" Mowry of Angola; and a sister, Doris "Louise" Rosenberry of Tempe, AZ.

Her husband, Henry J. Bodey, and two brothers preceded her in death.

Services were held Friday, July 18, 2003, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Burial was in the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne.

Memorials are to masses or the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 23 2003 ALBION, INDIANA

Betty Jean Hall

COLUMBIA CITY – Betty Jean Hall, 75, formerly of Columbia City, and most recently living with her daughter in Fort Wayne, died Saturday, July 12, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana in Fort Wayne.

Born in Fort Wayne on January 17, 1928, a daughter of Chester and Loretta (Algar) Myers, she was raised in Noble County and graduated from the former Albion High School. She moved to Fort Wayne in 1950.

She married Charles "Charlie" R. Hall on October 24, 1970 in Fort Wayne. They moved to Tri-Lakes in 1976 and then to Columbia City in 1990. Mr. Hall died January 7, 1995.

For 10 years, she was employed as a baker and supervisor for the Summers Bakery in Fort Wayne.

A member of the Eagles Auxiliary Post 248 in Fort Wayne, she also was an avid bingo player and jigsaw puzzle enthusiast.

Survivors include her former husband, Tony Gordon of Fort Wayne; four sons, Ted (Sherrell) Gordon of Tulsa, OK, Fred (Christina) Gordon of Roanoke, Wayne Gordon of Whitewater, WI, and Kenny (Sherry) Gordon of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Judy (Matthew) Barnes of Fort Wayne and Vickie (Don) Ashcraft of Celina, OH; two step-daughters, Grace (Mike) Kelly and Donna Diss, both of Fort Wayne; a sister, Colleen Statler of Wolf Lake; four brothers, Robert (Judy) Myers and Bill Myers, both of Fort Wayne, Jim (Rose) Myers of Waco, TX, and Don (Sandy) Myers of Avilla; 18 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and her husband, Charles, she was preceded in death by a step-daughter, Sherry Morton; a brother, Chester Myers; two grandsons and a great-grandson.

Services were held Tuesday, July 15, 2003, at DeMoney-Grimes Funeral Home, Columbia City, with Pastor John Cummings of Community Bible Church officiating. Burial was in Christian Chapel Cemetery, Noble County.

Irma Lux

CHARLESTON, MO – Irma Louise Lux, age 89, of Charleston, MO, formerly of Memphis, TN, died on july 20, 2003, at Clearview Nursing Center in Sikeston, MO.

She was born on August 13, 1913, in Fort Wayne to the late Franklin W. and Jennie Golden Luther.

She was a member of the Hunter Memorial First Presbyterian Church in Sikeston. She married John Joseph Lux on August 14, 1943, in Chicago, IL, and he preceded her in death on June 27, 2001.

She is survived by one son, William A Lux and wife, Marthalyn, of Sheffield, AL and one sister, Martha Ellen Lemmon of Albion. Two granddaughters, Anna Kathryn Gupta and husband, Rakesh, of Pasadena, CA and Jessica Louise Guillory and husband, Daren, of Eureka Springs, AR. Two great-grandchildren, Wilson Xavier and Rachel Charline Guillory of Eureka Springs. Besides her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Walter, Arthur and James Luther and three sisters, Georgiana Braun, Ruth Bouse and Rosella Plumb.

Visitation will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 3, 2003, at Hunter Memorial First Presbyterian Church where a 3:00 p.m. memorial service will be held. Rev. Rufus McLean, pastor, will officiate.

George Campbell

COLUMBIA CITY – George "Lee" Campbell, 63, of Columbia City, died Saturday, July 12, 2003, at his residence.

Born on February 15, 1940, a son of Oliver J. and Olive Muriel (McManus) Campbell in Wheeling, WV, he attended Whitehall High School in Whitehall, OH. Residing in Columbus, OH, through his high school years, he spent most of his adult lifetime in Fort Wayne, then he moved to Columbia City in 1998.

A U.S. Army veteran from 1959-1964, he served in Europe for two years.

He was married to Maureen K. Miller on May 15, 1965, at the Wallen United Methodist Church.

Employed by Custom Tube Company for 35 years as a plant superintendent in Waynedale, he was an umpire for Little League Baseball for 10 years for Three River's Umpire Association and a loyal Homestead High School Pit Crew member for the band. He was an avid NASCAR and Notre Dame fan.

Survivors include his wife, Maureen K.; a daughter, Katherine R. (Jonathan) Parker of Columbia City; a son, Neil C. (Mary Beth) Campbell of Fort Wayne; a sister, Phyllis J. Parisot of Auburn; two brothers, Dennis J. Campbell of Fort Wayne and Gregory R. Campbell of Albion; and four grandchildren.

His parents preceded him in death.

Services were held Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at DeMoney-Grimes Funeral Home in Columbia City with the Rev. Mark Clough, associate pastor of The Chapel, officiating. Burial was in South Park (Annex) Cemetery, Columbia City.

Memorial donations may be given in Mr. Campbell's memory to Dale Earnhardt Inc.-Charitable Gifts.

Walter Maloney

ALBION – Walter E. Maloney, 84, died Friday, July 18, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

Spending his entire lifetime in the community, he was born August 31, 1918, in Albion to Edwin M and Lera M. (Shaw) Maloney.

He married Fay Wilson on September 8, 1978; she survives.

Mr. Maloney was the Executive Vice-president of Albion National Bank from 1940-1984.

He was the 1936 Salutatorian at Albion High School; a 1940 graduate of Manchester College with distinction, and a U.S. Army World War II veteran. His memberships included Albion American Legion Post 246, and former member of Albion Rotary Club. He was also a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Albion, where he was prayer breakfast leader for 20 years and church treasurer for 10 years. He enjoyed traveling, bird watching and was a die hard "Cubbies Fan".

In addition to his wife, Fay, survivors include one step-daughter, Carla (Bret) Frymier of Albion; one step-son, Walter W. Wilson from Kendallville; and seven step-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by step-daughter Lisa Stahlhut.

Services were held Tuesday, July 22, 2003, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Albion with Rev. Doc. Dan Barker, officiating. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to the Albion Trinity Memorial Fund.

Richard Hippenhammer

AVILLA - Richard "Dick" A. Hippenhammer, 64, died Sunday, July 13, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

He had worked at Dana Corp. as a machinist for more than 20 years.

Mr. Hippenhammer was a veteran of the U.S. Army and a member of American Legion Post 240 in Avilla. He loved fishing, golfing and watching his grandchildren play baseball.

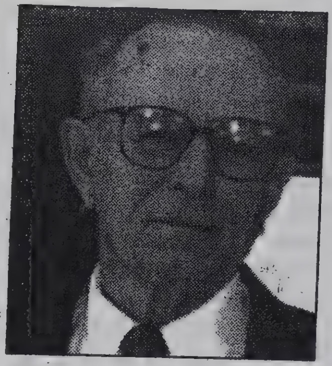
He was born January 31, 1939, in Noble County to Russell and Opal (Smith) Hippenhammer. On June 18, 1966, he married Barbara "Barb" Fischer at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avilla. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Shannon Hippenhammer of Avilla; a daughter and son-in-law, Joann and Jed Feagler of Avilla; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Marilyn and Gil Baumgartner of Fort Wayne and Janet and Phil Meyer of Venice, FL; three grandchildren, Kyle Johnson, and Tanner and Kendall Hippenhammer, all of Avilla; and two step-grandchildren, Dereck and Devin Feagler.

He was preceded in death by two brothers.

Services were held Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home, with the Rev. Dr. Leonard King officiating. Burial was in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery with military graveside rites by American Legion Post 240.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to Parkview Hospice.



Allen Wysong

WOLF LAKE – Allen L. "Bud" Wysong, 83, died Monday, July 14, 2003, in Parkview Whitley Hospital, Columbia City.

He was a retired farmer and an Army veteran of World War II. He was a graduate of Wolf Lake High School and a life member of Wolf Lake V.F.W. No. 4717. He was a member of Albion American Legion Post 246 and active with the Wolf Lake Fire Department.

He was born September 26, 1919, in Noble County to Robert and Ruth (Gandy) Wysong. On December 28, 1946, in Wolf Lake, he married H. Joann Bennett. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Richard "Rick" Wysong of Wolf Lake and Robert "Bob" and Mary Wysong of Cromwell; a sister, Mary Parkinson of Kimmell; a brother, Paul Wysong of Columbia City; a brother-in-law, Steve Bennett of Ligonier; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Ann Parsons.

Services were held Friday, July 18, 2003, at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier with the Rev. Don Poyser officiating. Burial was in Thorn Cemetery in Ormas with military graveside services.

Memorials are to Wolf Lake V.F.W. Post 4717 or to the Wolf Lake Fire Department.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 23 2003 ALBION, INDIANA

Donald Knapp

CROMWELL – Donald Eugene Knapp, 85, formerly of 0711 South June Drive, Knapp Lake, Cromwell, died Thursday, July 17, 2003, at St. Joseph Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was born in Ligonier on October 14, 1917, to Cecil E. and Vicie Gladys (Howell) Knapp.

Mr. Knapp attended the Washington Township, Noble County schools and graduated from Wolf Lake High School with the Class of 1938. He spent his lifetime in Noble County, and near Knapp Lake from 1940 until entering Miller's Merry Manor Nursing Home, Columbia City, in 1993. In 1999, he transferred to the Byron Health Care Center in Fort Wayne.

He married Ilene Elizabeth Bainbridge on October 20, 1940, in Columbia City. He drove school bus for 16 years for the Noble County school system. Mr. Knapp retired in 1986 from Dana Weatherhead Company, Columbia City, where he had been employed for 19 ½ years in addition to operating his own Noble County farm. He was a member of Ormas Baptist Church for more than 40 years, and he and his wife were well known in northern Indiana for their popular Christian gospel chalk drawings.

He is survived by two brothers, James Nelson (Jean) Knapp, of Fort Wayne, and Calvin G. (Helen) Knapp from Fort Myers, FL; one sister, Mrs. Billy (Viola) Weicht in Pierceton; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Cecil Knapp; his mother, Vicie Knapp; his stepmother, Vesta Knapp; wife, Ilene Knapp; and brother Charles Knapp.

Services were held Monday, July 21, 2003, at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City with Pastor Mike Allen officiating. Burial was in Oak Grove (Compton) Cemetery, Columbia City.

Memorials may be made to Ormas Baptist Church.

Rebecca Driscoll

WAWAKA – Rebecca "Reba" Driscoll, 38, of Wawaka, died Wednesday, July 16, 2003, in LaGrange County Hospital.

She was born on February 16, 1965, in Kendallville, IN to Homer England and Eda Whitker England.

She married Patrick Driscoll on August 4, 1984, in Wawaka; he survives her.

She was employed at Nisco, was a teacher's assistant in the preschool at Wawaka United Methodist Church, and enjoyed NASCAR.

She is survived by her husband, Patrick Driscoll of Wawaka; two daughters, Danielle and Amber Driscoll from Wawaka; one son, Jerry Driscoll of Wawaka; her mother, Eda England of Syracuse; three brothers, Jeff England of Albion, Homer England from Kendallville, and Ken England in Syracuse; one sister, Susie Tyner of Warsaw; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held Monday, July 21, 2003, at Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier with Rev. Jimmy Robbins officiating. Burial was in Rosehill Cemetery of Albion.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to the family.

Martha Addis

ALBION – Martha A. Addis died Wednesday, July 16, 2003, at Marquette Manor Nursing Home in Indianapolis.

Mrs. Addis was born in Wabash to Otto and Mae (Shambaugh) Bright. Long time resident of Noble County, she lived the last nine years in Indianapolis.

She is survived by son and daughter-in-law, Jack B. and Eleanor Pence of Indianapolis; and daughter, Gail Pence; brother and sister-in-law, Allen and Mary-Louise Bright; sister-in-law, Edna Bright; and one grand-daughter, Christine Pence

She was preceded in death by her husband, Guy Addis and brother, Gene Bright.

Services were held Saturday, July 19, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Albion, with Rev. Dan Carlson officiating. Burial was in Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to The Noble House or Noble County Humane Shelter.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 24 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Lucille Hecht

KENDALLVILLE — Lucille H. Hecht, 87, died Wednesday, July 23, 2003, at Kendallville Manor Healthcare.

Mrs. Hecht

Mrs. Hecht was a homemaker and 35-year member of Zion Lutheran Church, Corunna. She was currently a member of St. John Lutheran Church, Kendallville.

She was born Nov. 24, 1915, in rural Kendallville to Henry and Helena (Pankop) Hasselman. She married Harold Hecht on March 17, 1934, at the Zion Lutheran Church parsonage in Corunna. He survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Lynn and Ann Hecht of Vincennes; three grandsons, Aaron Hecht and Kevin Ply, both of Lafayette, and Andrew Hecht of Bloomington; two granddaughters, Kimberly McDonough of Jamestown, R.I., and Kristine Ripke of Lafayette; and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter and son-in-law, Joyce and William Ply; three sisters, Anna Lehman, Flora Gehring and Henrietta Pankop; and five brothers, William, Howard, Art, Carl and Ralph Hasselman.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. John Lutheran Church. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Friday at Hite Funeral Home and one hour before services Saturday at the church.

Memorials are to St. John Lutheran Church or Zion Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Fedie Blankenship

KENDALLVILLE — Fedie Blankenship, 61, died Wednesday, July 23, 2003.

Services are pending at Hite Funeral Home.

Steven Greenfield

AUBURN — Steven C. Greenfield, 45, died Wednesday, July 23, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Greenfield was employed at Richards Restaurant in Auburn 14 years. He was a member of the Dale Earnhart Jr. Fan Club.

He was born April 3, 1958, in Garrett.

Surviving are his mother, Shirley (Harnish) Greenfield, Garrett; his father and stepmother, Jerry and Patricia Greenfield of Waterford, Mich.; a brother, Jeffrey Greenfield, Auburn; two sisters, Carole Ragsdale of Clarksville, Tenn., and Shelley Smith of Corunna; his beloved cat, Jewel; 14 nieces, Angie, Brandi, Kristin, Destiny, Rachel, Kelly, Morgan, Myah, Faith, Crystal, Roxanne, Shayla, Hannah and Brooklyn; and seven nephews, Jeff, Brent, Damion, Louie, Shannon, Isiah and Joshua.

One nephew, Josh, preceded him in death.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with the Rev. Arthur Ferry officiating. Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery of Auburn.

Calling is Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home. Memorials are to the family.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Virginia L. Owens** were held at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Hite Funeral Home with the Rev. Larry Hubartt officiating.

Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were John Fracaro, Dwight Miller, Matthew Amburgey, Stephen Brady, Harry Bauer and Robert Gillespie.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Monna Lou Thompson** were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Rome City United Methodist Church with the Rev. Mike McKinney officiating.

Burial will be at a later date.

Hite Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 25 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Brian Wesson

KIMMELL — Brian T. "Wes" Wesson, 62, died at 5:21 p.m. Wednesday, July 23, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and was employed by General Motors in Janesville, Wis., and Fort Wayne for 37 years. He was a member of Community Bible Church in Columbia City and the UAW in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Wesson

Mr. Wesson was born Feb. 25, 1941, in Pittsfield, N.H., to John Thomas and Violet Elizabeth (Tilton) Wesson. He graduated from Pittsfield High School. On Dec. 30, 1968, he married Jacqueline Jean Dooley in Rockton, Ill. She died on Sept. 2, 2000.

Surviving are five sons and four daughters-in-law, Dave and Sue Wesson of Janesville; Thomas and Cathy Wesson of Kimmell; Dennis and Amy Wesson of Albion; Weldon and Julie Wesson of Corpus Christi, Texas; and Shawn Wesson of Janesville; a daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Dean Gerber of Neillsville, Wis..; three brothers, Robert of Pittsfield, N.H., Michael of Manchester, N.H., and John of Foxford, Mass.; a sister and brother-in-law, Claire and Arnold Ries of Punta Gorda, Fla.; and 13 grandchildren.

Also preceding him in death was a brother, Craig.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home, Columbia City. Burial will be in Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Calling will be from 2 to 4 and 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Child Evangelism Ministries, Box 612, Winona Lake, IN 46590.

Fedie Blankenship

SOUTH MILFORD — Fedie Blankenship, 61, died unexpectedly Wednesday, July 23, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

He was employed at Indiana Builders Manufacturing in Middlebury and a member of and deacon at the Church of the True God in South Milford.

Mr. Blankenship was born April 28, 1942, in Floyd County, Ken., to William and Mattie (Moore) Blankenship. He married Mary Conley on May 4, 1963, in Rome City. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Steven and Julie Blankenship of Rome City; two daughters and sons-in-law, Delores and Bill Forbes of Kendallville and Barbara and Tracy Spriggs of South Milford; four sisters, Elcie Gayheart of LaGrange, Maxie Stambaugh of Mongo, Tina Bolton of Wolcottville, and Alley Wiley of Duck Lake, Mich.; two brothers, Eddie Blankenship of Wolcottville and Levi Blankenship of Floyd County, Ky.; and four grandchildren, Katie Forbes, Lauren Forbes, Holly Blankenship and Caleb Blankenship.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Church of the True God, north of South Milford, with the Revs. Sam Sawyer and Birtchell Mosley Jr. officiating. Burial will be in Mt. Pisgah Cemetery.

Calling will be after 11 a.m. today at the church. A service will be held at 7 tonight at the church.

Hite Funereal Home in Kendallville is in charge of arrangement.

Walter Davis

WATERLOO — Walter L. "Mike" Davis, 76, died Thursday, July 24, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Davis retired in 1984 from Newnam Foundry in Kendallville, where he had been a semi driver for 29 years. He was a U.S. Army veteran of Korea and was a member of the Waterloo post of Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He was born June 14, 1927, in Auburn to Russell and Beatrice (Mock) Davis.

He married Loretta Sebert on Oct. 18, 1952, in Angola. She died Nov. 14, 1998.

Surviving are three sons and one daughter-in-law, Jerry and Nadine Davis of Waterloo, Michael Davis of Garrett, and Joe Davis of Waterloo; a daughter and son-in-law, Beatrice and Steve Printz of Waterloo; a half-sister, Pauline Sanderson of Garrett; 10 grandchildren, five stepgrandchildren, three great-grandchildren and seven stepgreat-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Lowell Davis.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with burial in Corunna Cemetery.

Calling is Sunday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Corunna Fire Department.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN

JULY 25 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Robert Ludy

MUNCIE — Robert W. Ludy, 75, died Thursday, July 24, 2003, in Ball Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Mr. Ludy was U.S. Army veteran and had served in Korea. He was a former member of the Dunkirk Masonic Lodge and Fort Wayne Scottish Rite and Mizph Shrine.

He retired from Kerr Glass Co. in 1983 after 35 years of service and was a member of the Sunridge Baptist Church in Sebring, Fla.

Mr. Ludy was born June 11, 1928, in Jay County to Vern and MaDora (Journay) Ludy.

Surviving are his wife, Florence "Bonnie" Myers Ludy of Muncie; a daughter and son-in-law, Carol and Patrick Grady of Fishers; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Vern and Rhonda Ludy of Rome City and Scott Ludy of Rome City; a sister, Janet Luce of Angola; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by three sisters and a brother.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Lightner Funeral Home, Dunkirk, with Pastor Jerry Nelson officiating. Burial will be in Gravel Hill Cemetery in Bryant.

Calling will be from 5-8 tonight at the funeral home.

Dorothy Thomas

PALM HARBOR, Fla. — Dororthy "Louise" Thomas, 77, formerly of Kendallville, died Wednesday, July 23, 2003, at Westchester Garden, Clearwater.

Mrs. Thomas was a registered nurse at McCray Memorial Hospital in Kendallville. She moved to Florida in 1977 from Kendallville.

She was a Warren, Ind., native and a member of First United Methodist Church in Tarpon Springs.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George, who was a former Kendallville Police Chief.

Surviving are three son, David of Tampa, Dwight of Ocala, and Dwane of Woodstock, Ga.; three sisters, Helen Rogers of Hartford City, Ind., Doris Ann Millhouse of Monks Corner, S.C., and Jean Gasbarro of Bradenton; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were two brothers, Harold Brown and Jerry Brown.

Arrangements are by Vinson Funeral Home, Tarpon Springs.

Sandra Barton

Mrs. Barton

ALBION — Sandra R. Barton, 63, died at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday, July 23, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. Barton had moved to Albion four years ago from Owosso, Mich. She was a case manager at ADEC Corp. in Bristol.

She was born Dec. 2, 1939, in Owosso to Felix and Mammie (Savak) Malkaski. She married Duray H. "Bud" Barton in Indianapolis. He survives.

Also surviving are a son, Michael Barton of Indianapolis; and a brother, Donald Malkaski of Michigan. She is also survived by her pet bulldog, Boomer.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

Calling will be from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN

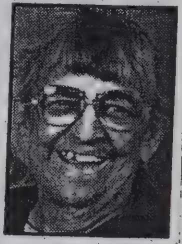
JULY 26 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Edra Schisler

CROMWELL — Edra Arlene Schisler, 71, died Thursday, July 24, 2003, at 5:44 p.m. in Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana in Fort Wayne.

She was born on Nov. 27, 1931, in Muncie to Clarence and Delores Rydenbark.

She married George Ray Schisler on Sept. 8, 1950, in Muncie. He survives.


Mrs. Schisler

Mrs. Schisler was a homemaker and member of Indian Village Untied Methodist Church.

She enjoyed collecting angels and helping at West Noble schools.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by three daughters, Nancy Schisler of Cromwell, Vicky Schisler of California, and Linda Smith and her spouse, Darryll, of California; one son and daughter-in-law, Bob and Debbie Schisler of Syracuse; one brother, George Rydenbark of California; six grandchildren, Bob Jr. and Deanna Schisler of Cromwell, Jennifer Schisler of Syracuse, Tina and Gabe Farney of Goshen, Julie and Dan Casey of California, Darryll Smith of California, and William Owen of Chicago; and six great-grandchildren, Elizabeth, Brandon, Nathan, Nicole, Bobby III and Christopher.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a daughter, Ranelle, a son Ricky, two sisters and two brothers.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Orr Funeral Home of Ligonier with the Rev. Duane Ginder officiating. Burial will follow in Indian Village Cemetery.

Visitation will be Monday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

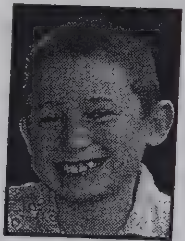
Memorial contribution can be made to the family.

Lyndon Akins

GOSHEN — Lyndon Jordan Akins, 8, died Friday, July 25, 2003, at 4:28 a.m. at Goshen General Hospital.

He had suffered from a heart condition.

He was born to Leo J. and Lisa (Yoder) Akins of Goshen on Nov. 26, 1994.


Mr. Akins

Surviving are two brothers, Leighton Jay and Luke Jerald Akins, at home; grandparents, Leo and Bonnie Akins of Syracuse, Marie Cantu of Milford, Larry Shutske of Bremen, and Kathryn Yoder of Goshen; grandparents LeRoy and Verda Schrock of Kaleva, Mich., and Phyllis Pilla of Milford.

Preceding him in death are a brother, Leo James Akins II, and a grandfather, Lester Yoder.

Services will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. at Peoples Bible Church in Benton, with burial at Grace Lawn Cemetery in Middlebury.

Calling will be from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday at the church.

Memorials are to the Akins family.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Diane Fraley

ANGOLA — Diane Lynn "Ziggy" Fraley, 43, died Thursday, July 24, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Fraley loved to ride horses and was active in trail and benefit rides. She was a former Sunday school teacher at Metz Christian Church and was an emergency medical technician with the Metz Volunteer Fire Department.

Mrs. Fraley was born on Nov. 11, 1959, in Indianapolis to Daniel Zeigler and Charlotte Zeigler-Cape.

She married Chris Fraley in 1994.

She lived in Angola, where she worked as a secretary at H and S Automotive.

She is survived by her husband; two sons, Skyler and Daniel Powell, both of Angola; one stepdaughter, Christy Davison of Angola; one stepson, Brian Fraley of Ashley; two brothers, Larry Zeigler of Indianapolis and Michael Zeigler of Columbia, Ohio; two sisters, Charolen Caldwell of Angola and Darlene Zeigler of Fort Wayne; one grandchild; three stepgrandchildren; and her stepfather, Kermit Cape of Angola.

She is preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Aaron Zeigler.

Services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola, with Pastor Darold Beck officiating.

Burial will be in Columbia Cemetery in Columbia, Ohio.

Visitation is from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN 2003 Kendallville, Indiana
JULY 26

Guy Burnsworth

COLUMBIA CITY — Guy Richard Burnsworth, 79, of Columbia City, died Thursday, July 24, 2003, at The Oaks Living Center in Columbia City.

Mr. Burnsworth had been a resident of the center since October 2002.

He was born Jan. 13, 1924, in Thorncreek Township in Whitley County to Melvin L. and Catherine Jane (Buckles) Burnworth.

Mr. Burnsworth

He attended Wolf Lake School and completed his education at Columbia City High School.

In September 1942, he joined the U.S. Navy Seabees. After being discharged 10 years later, he joined the Air Force in March 1955, retiring in September 1967.

He then worked at Bowmar and then the Indiana Department of Transportation for 15 years.

He was a member of V.F.W. Post 5582, where he served as past commander. He was also a member of American Legion Post 98, Eagles 1906 and Moose 1063.

He is survived by two brothers, George Burnworth of Columbia City and Bill Burnworth of Harper Lake; two sisters, Louella Ayers of Churubusco and Mary Cox of Zeeland, Mich.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Lowell Burnworth, and a sister, Viola Burnworth.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Smith and Sons Funeral Home in Columbia City with the Rev. Curtiss Johnson officiating. Burial will be in Thorn Cemetery, Ormas.

Visitation will be from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Military honors will be presented by V.F.W. Post 5582 and American Legion Post 98.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to V.F.W. Post 5582 or the donor's favorite charity.

Susan Papaik

FORT WAYNE — Susan Elizabeth Papaik, 42, died Friday, July 25, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Papaik was born in Kendallville. She was a homemaker and a member of Our Hope Lutheran Church in Huntertown.

Surviving are her husband, Thom Papaik of Fort Wayne; her children, Nicholas, Angela and Carmen Papaik, all of Fort Wayne; her mother, Pauline Milleman of Huntertown; a brother, Jeff Milleman of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Carol Richardson and Kris Fisher, both of Huntertown; and 20 nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death are her sister, Ronda Hursh, in 1992, and her father, Ronald Milleman, in 1989.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Our Hope Lutheran Church, 1826 Trinity Drive, Huntertown. Burial will be in Huntertown Cemetery.

Calling will be one hour before services at the church, and from 1 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, 1320 E. Dupont Road.

Memorials are to the pulmonary-cardio rehab department at Lutheran Hospital.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 27 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Pauline Burkmire

BUTLER — Pauline Burkmire, 80, of Butler, died Friday, July 25, 2003, at St. Vincent's Hospital in Indianapolis.

She was a member of the Butler Nazarene Church, the Butler American Legion Auxiliary, for which she played an active role in its poppy sales, and the Butler Eagles. She loved her grandchildren and enjoyed making chocolate chip cookies, working at church and going to breakfast with friends.

She was born Sept. 18, 1922, in Spencerville, to Harrison and Nora (Cook) Norrick. On July 29, 1942, in Napoleon, Ohio, she married Richard T. Burkmire, and he preceded her in death on June 24, 1976. A son, Jimmy Burkmire, a daughter, Margaret Burkmire, a brother, Frank Norrick, and a sister, Mary Morrow, are also deceased.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Charles and Mary Ann Burkmire of Norman, Okla.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Jane and Blaine Alleshouse and Judith and Joe Burnett, all of Butler; two sisters, Ina Kitchen of Butler and Hulda Libey of Angola; nine grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Services Tuesday at 11 a.m. at the Butler Nazarene Church, with the Rev. Paul Patton officiating. Calling will be Monday from 2-8 p.m. at H.E. Johnson & Son Funeral Home in Butler.

Burial will be in Butler Cemetery. Memorials are to the church or the American Cancer Society.

Velva Post

KENDALLVILLE — Velva Viola Post, 93, died Friday, July 25, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville, where she had resided for six years.

She moved to Kendallville in 1948, where she lived as a farm wife.

Mrs. Post

She was born June 26, 1910, in Payne, Ohio, to James and Nellie (Nichols) Franklin. On March 26, 1932, in Paulding, Ohio, she married James O. Post, and he preceded her in death on June 24, 1997. A sister Sadie Ann Post, and a brother, James E. Franklin, are also deceased.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Lorraine and David Weber of Kendallville and Valeria and Marvin Gordon of Tucson, Ariz., seven grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; 11 greatgrandchildren; and 4 stepgreatgrandchildren.

Graveside services will be Monday at 3 p.m. at Orange Cemetery in Rome City, with Pastor Mark Metz officiating. Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville is in charge of arrangements.

James Koons

AVILLA — James L. Koons, 88, of Avilla, died Saturday at Parkview Noble Hospital, Kendallville. Services are pending at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla.

Cindy Marti

GARRETT — Cindy S. Marti, 44, of Garrett, died Thursday, July 24, 2003, at Hagerstown.

Mrs. Marti

She was a lifelong Garrett resident and human resources manager at the Auburn Wal-Mart. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Garrett.

She was born Jan. 10, 1959, in Auburn, to James E. and Lucille (Bond) Lash. On July 13, 1992, in Auburn, she married David A. Marti, and he survives.

Surviving are her father, of Garrett; a sister, Dianne L. Thomas of Garrett; two brothers, James C. Lash of Fort Wayne and David T. Lash of Carmel; a stepdaughter, Heather Davis of Garrett; two sisters-in-law, Georganna Bickley of Garrett and Linda Babcock and her husband, Bill, of Fort Wayne; a brother-in-law and his wife, Mike and Kari Marti of Garrett; two stepgrandchildren, Alex and MacKenzie; and several nieces and nephews.

Her mother preceded her in death.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Garrett, with Father Thom Lombardi officiating. Calling will be Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home in Garrett. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery, Garrett.

Memorials are to St. Joseph Catholic Church or school.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 27 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Corey Betts

BLUFFTON — Corey Paul Betts, 14, died Thursday, July 24, 2003, at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, of complications from a bone marrow transplant.

He was a Bluffton High School freshman and active in the marching, concert and pep bands. He played T-ball as a small boy and went on to play baseball, including Farm League All Stars, Junior League, the Willie Blair All Stars and the Sandy Koufax League. He played football and basketball in the seventh and eighth grade at Bluffton Middle School, including Future Tigers and Pall Club basketball. He also played PeeWee Football and on the Optimists Soccer League. He attended Sonlight Wesleyan Church and was a member of its Power House ministries. He was an honor roll student.

He was born July 28, 1988, in Bluffton, to Keith K. and Sara J. (Helms) Betts. His parents survive in Bluffton.

Also surviving are his grandparents, Jay and Nancy Betts of Petroleum, Ind., and Paul and Virginia Helms; and a sister, Emily, and brother, Brandon, both at home.

Services will be Monday at 2 p.m. at Bluffton High School, with the Rev. James Matchett officiating. Calling is today from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. at the high school, and one hour prior to services on Monday.

Burial will be in Six Mile Cemetery. Memorials are to the American Cancer Society or the Bluffton High School Band Boosters.

Clarice Branstrator

ANGOLA — Clarice R. Branstrator, 97, of Angola, died Friday, July 25, 2003, at Northern Lakes Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Angola.

A homemaker, she was born Nov. 17, 1905, in Scott Township, Steuben County, to Joseph A. and Mabel (Egger) Kaufman.

Surviving are two sons, William and Jack Lancaster Sr., both of of Angola; a sister, Grace Ridenour of South Bend; seven grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

Three sisters, Vera Hunn, Florence Huling and Catherine Kogin, a brother, James E. Kaufman, and three husbands preceded her in death.

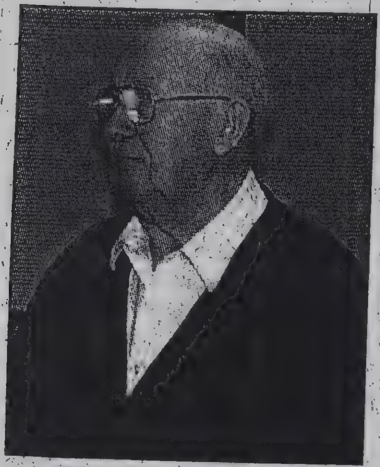
Services will be Tuesday at noon at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola, with the Rev. Tim Seevers officiating. Calling will be two hours prior to services.

Burial will be in South Scott Cemetery, Steuben County. Memorials are to Pleasant View Church of Christ in Angola.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 27 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Political legend dies

James Koons, 88, led Noble Democrats for 57 year



FILE PHOTO

James Koons was a longtime Avilla resident and former owner of Koons Market in Avilla. Koons had been in failing health recently. He died Saturday at the age of 88.

BY MATT GETTS
mattg@kpcnews.net

AVILLA — Democratic Party icon. Business leader. Generous soul.

James L. Koons was all that and more. The longtime Avilla resident, who had been in failing health in recent weeks, died Saturday. He was 88.

Koons, the former owner of Koons Market in Avilla, was Noble County Democratic chairman for 57 years, from 1944 to 2001. In 2001, he was named county Democratic Party chairman emeritus. But his influence knew no county boundaries.

He rubbed elbows with presidents and governors. He was designated a Sagamore of the Wabash on June 4, 1990. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the governor of Indiana.

In presenting the honor, Indiana Gov. Evan Bayh said he honored Koons for his service to his community and state.

"He was Mr. Democrat," former District 52 State Rep. Dale Sturtz said of Koons. "Even in later years, he was one of the few people who could call up the governor and talk to him without too much trouble."

The term "sagamore" in the honor bestowed upon Koons was used by American Indian tribes of the northeastern United States to describe a lesser chief or great man among the tribe to who the true chief would look to f wisdom and advice. For decade Koons lived that designation.

Customers at his mark included every Democrati Hoosier governor from Henr Schricker to Evan Bayh, an members of Congress includin Vance Hartke, Birch Bayh an Jill Long.

Koons had also served as th Third Congressional Distric chairman for the Democratic Party.

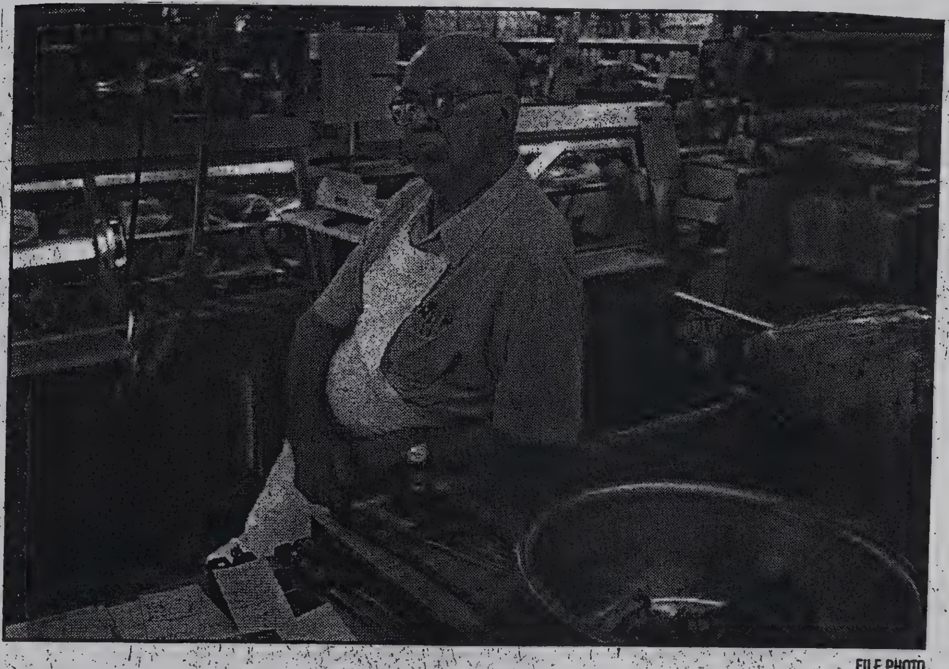
"He was a real influence in Democratic politics, not only in the county but the state and even nationally," Terry Brazzell, a two-term Democratic Noble

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 27 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

STATE OF INDIANA

FILE PHOTO

James Koons of Avilla receives the Sagamore of the Wabash honor on June 4, 1990, from Indiana Gov. Evan Bayh. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the governor of Indiana.



FILE PHOTO

James Koons poses at the butcher's counter at Koons Market in Avilla in this undated file photo. Koons was Noble County Democratic chairman from 1944 to 2001. He died Saturday at the age of 88.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 27 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

LEGEND: *Koons got involved in politics in 1940*

County Coroner, said. "He had a lot of political connections."

The man who once campaigned with presidential candidate Harry Truman remained close to the current state administration of Gov. Frank O'Bannon and Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan.

Koons recruited current Noble County Judge G. David Laur shortly after Laur moved to the area in 1974. When Laur became disenchanted with the Democratic Party at the national level, he contemplated a party change. Laur did change parties — but not until Koons was no longer party chairman.

"I would have switched years earlier," Laur said. "Out of respect to Jim I didn't."

When Sturtz contemplated his first statehouse run in 1992, he conferred with the cigar-toting grocer from Avilla.

"He's certainly one of the first people I went to see," Sturtz said. "If you wanted to run (for office), you needed him to support you.

"If you wanted something to happen, you went and talked to Jim."

The Democratic Party will certainly miss the man who guided it for nearly six decades.

"You don't replace him," former Kendallville Mayor John Riemke said. "There'll never be another Jim Koons."

But Koons was much more than a political icon.

"He was a very gentle person," Noble County Democratic Party vice-chairwoman Betty Newman said. "He found many people jobs when times were tough."

Brazzell, who had known Koons for more than 40 years, described a man with a sometimes gruff exterior but a heart of gold.

"Nobody ever went without groceries with Jim Koons," Brazzell said. "He probably gave away more food than he ever sold."

Koons was active in the Catholic Church and the Avilla Chamber of Commerce. He was also a member of the Elks and Moose. And he was a big-time Chicago Cubs fan.

Koons told a reporter in 1990 that when he and wife Dorothy, who survives, were married in 1955, the wedding ceremony was at 7 a.m. After a breakfast in Kendallville, the couple "made it to Chicago in time for a doubleheader. We spent the rest of the weekend in French Lick at a Democratic convention."

Koons was born on Baum Street in Avilla. He played basketball at Avilla High School, where he graduated in 1933.

Koons got his start in the grocery business as a youngster, working in Henry Hanlon's store on East Albion Street in the late 1920s. Koons once recalled selling peanuts and popcorn from a cart along the street for 5 cents a bag.

After high school, Koons took a job with the first Kroger grocery store in Fort Wayne.

In April 1940, Koons went into business for himself, purchasing the small operation where he had worked as a boy across from St. James Restaurant. He moved the store into larger quarters on East Albion Street in 1944, and in 1953 completely remodeled and enlarged his store.

Koons got involved in politics the same year he opened his own store. He was elected precinct committeeman and then in 1944 was installed as chairman of the Noble County Democratic Central Committee, a position he held until 2001.

"I got a call one day at the store and it was Eugene Carteux, the mayor of Kendallville," Koons told a reporter in 1990. "He congratulated me on my new job. He said Democrats had gathered and named me chairman. I told him I didn't have the time and would lose all my customers. But I found the time and it didn't bother the customers. I always said the only difference between Democrats and Republicans is that Republicans have money."

The longest-serving county political chairman in the state, Koons campaigned with FDR, Harry Truman, John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson and Jimmy Carter.

"I was on Truman's whistlestop tour during the 1948 campaign which stopped in Garrett," Koons said in 1990. "What a turnout we had."

Services are pending at Brazzell Funeral Home, Avilla.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 28 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Longtime political legend James Koons, 88, dies

AVILLA — James L. Koons, 88, a longtime Noble County Democratic Party chairman, died at 12:14 p.m. Saturday, July 26, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Mr. Koons was a lifetime resident of Avilla and the owner and operator of Koons Supermarket from 1940-1992.

He served as Noble County Democratic Party chairman from 1944-2001 and was named chairman emeritus in 2001. On June 4, 1990, he was presented the Sagamore of the Wabash by then-Gov. Evan Bayh. He also served as the 3rd Congressional District chairman for the Democratic Party.

He was a 1933 graduate of Avilla High School. He was the former chairman of the March of Dimes and member of the Avilla Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Koons was a lifetime member of the Kendallville Elks and the Moose Lodge. He served on numerous local committees and helped bring bingo to St. Mary's Catholic Church. He was a longtime sponsor of Avilla Baseball and a die-hard Chicago Cubs baseball fan.

He was born June 1, 1915, in Avilla to William and Cecelia (Ley) Koons. On Aug. 23, 1955, he married Dorothy Finney in St. Mary's Catholic Church. She survives.

Mr. Koons

Also surviving are a daughter, Ann Koons of Chicago.

Preceding him in death were a son, Father James Koons, on Aug. 6, 1998; four brothers, Charles, Harold, Dick and Burt; and a sister, Edith VanHouten.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Mary's Catholic Church with Fathers Daniel Durkin and David Rasner officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-5 and 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Brazzell Funeral Home, with a rosary service at 7:30 p.m., and one hour before services Wednesday at the church.

Memorials are Masses to the church.

This obituary is being reprinted to provide additional information.

Velva Post

KENDALLVILLE — Velva Viola Post, 93, died Friday, July 25, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville, where she had resided for six years.

She moved to Kendallville in 1948, where she lived as a farm wife.

She was born June 26, 1910, in Payne, Ohio, to James and Nellie (Nichols) Franklin. On March 26, 1932, in Paulding, Ohio, she married James O. Post, and he preceded her in death on June 24, 1997.

Mrs. Post

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Lorraine and David Weber of Kendallville and Valeria and Marvin Gordon of Tucson, Ariz., seven grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and four stepgreat-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were two sons, James Post and Haven Post; a sister, Sadie Ann Post, and a brother, James E. Franklin.

Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. today at Orange Cemetery in Rome City, with Pastor Mark Metz of Faith United Methodist Church officiating.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana
JULY 28 2003

Madonna Overmyer

SHIPSHEWANA — Madonna K. Overmyer, 69, died Saturday, July 26, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital after a brief illness.

For over 42 years, Mrs. Overmyer and her husband, the Rev. Kenneth Overmyer, served pastorates at several North Indiana Conference United Methodist Churches, including Akron, Deedsville, Milford, Donaldson, Grovertown, Grasscreek, Berne, Warsaw, Walnut Creek, Shipshewana, Elkhart Bethel, South Bend River Park, Syracuse, St. Andrews and Albion Asbury.

She attended Grace College at Winona Lake, graduating with a degree in elementary education in 1971. She later earned a master's degree from Indiana University in 1976.

She served as a teacher for 28 years in the Warsaw, Culver and Shipshewana school systems. She was a retired member of the Indiana State Teachers Assocation. She served on the board of directors at Epworth Forest in North Webster. She was a member of Warsaw Trinity United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Overmyer was born July 20, 1934, in Bryant to Honor and Blanche Wilson.

She married Kenneth Overmyer in Akron in 1952 after graduating from Bryant High School.

Surviving are her husband; a daughter, Deborah Good of Indianapolis; a son and daughter-in-law, the Rev. David L. and Karen Overmyer of Warsaw; two sisters, Patricia De Poy of Cleveland, N.Y., and Kathleen Wilson of LaGrange; and five grandchildren and their spouses, Shannon and Byron Osborn of Beach Grove, Jeremy Good of Little Rock, Ark., Kristin and Adam Harp of Terre Haute, and Kyle Overmyer and Kelly Overmyer, both of Warsaw.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Warsaw Trinity Funeral Chapel, Warsaw, with the Rev. Marianne Chalstrom and the Rev. Janet Luchs. Burial will be in Bruce Lake Cemetery in Kewanna at 2:30 p.m.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at McHatton-Sadler Funeral Chapel in Warsaw.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Warsaw Trinity United Methodist Church Endowment Trust, 832 E. Center St., Warsaw, IN, 46580.

Linda O'Brien

WARSAW — Linda Sue O'Brien, 58, died at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, July 27, 2003, at her home.

She was deputy clerk treasurer for the City of Warsaw.

Mrs. O'Brien

Ms. O'Brien was a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church and a member of Stonehenge Country Club at Winona Lake. She was also a member of the Elks and American Legion Auxiliary in Warsaw.

She was born Sept. 22, 1944, in Kendallville to Edward and Bertha Kurtz and was a 1962 graduate of Kendallville High School. She attended International Business College for two years.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Jennifer and Brooks Johnson of Nappanee; and a sister, Ann Frain of Kendallville.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Oakwood Cemetery, Warsaw, with Indiana State Police Chaplain Bill Richardson officiating.

Calling will be from noon to 1 p.m. at McHatton-Sadler Funeral Chapel, Warsaw.

Memorials to Kosciusko Home Care & Hospice, 902 Provident Drive, Warsaw, IN 46580.

Hattie Russell

ALBION — Hattie L. Russell, 89, died Sunday, July 27, 2003, in Parkview Whitley Hospital, Columbia City.

Mrs. Russell was a cook at Smith-Green Community Schools before her retirement. She enjoyed quilting and gardening.

Mrs. Russell

She was born May 20, 1914, in Fonde, Ky., to Paris and Mossie (Smith) Wylie. She married Ernest Russell in March 1954 in Peru. He died in 1969.

Surviving are a daughter, Linda Shelton of Fort Wayne; four sons and two daughters-in-law, Ray Howell of Toledo, Ohio, Larry Russell of Churubusco, James and Elizabeth Russell of Sneedville, Tenn., and Bill and Gale Russell of Churubusco; a brother, Jack Wylie of LaFollette, Tenn.; two sisters, Pauline Miracie of Fort Wayne and Margarete Ginkinger of Whitehall, Pa.; 21 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Also preceding her in death were two brothers, Edward and Charles; and three sisters, Helen Muzingo, Gladys Pierce and Ruby.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Orr Funeral Home in Churubusco with the Rev. Eddie Jones officiating. Burial will be in Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

Calling will be from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday and one hour prior to services Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Lung Association or to the donor's choice.

Herbert Starrett

ANGOLA — Herbert A. Starrett, 83, died Sunday, July 27, 2003, at Lakeland Nursing Center, Angola.

Mr. Starrett was born Jan. 26, 1920, in Orland, to Melvin and Emily (McMullen) Starrett. He was married to Hazel Middleton on Nov. 19, 1939, in South Bend. She survives.

He was a retired carpenter, and had worked for Hagerman Construction in Fort Wayne.

Also surviving are a son, Robert Starrett of Lafayette; a daughter and son-in-law, Joyce and James Bieghler of Rochester; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Lavern and Almond Starrett, and a sister, Vernice Manning.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Johnson-Klink Funeral Home, Angola, with the Rev. Brian E. Carsten officiating. Calling is today from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Burial will be in Teeters Cemetery, Fremont.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana
JULY 30 2003

Rev. Edwin Helm

ANDERSON — The Rev. Edwin H. Helm, 77, former pastor at Faith United Methodist Church in Kendallville, died Sunday, July 27, 2003, at his home following an extended illness.

The Rev. Helm was an ordained elder in the North Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church. He was in the ministry for over 50 years. He served many churches during his career and was on the pastoral staff at New Horizons United Methodist Church in Anderson the past 11 years.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and a graduate of Ball State University and Christian Theological Seminary.

He was born May 12, 1926, in New Castle to A.E. and Mary Helm and grew up in Parker City. He married Ruth Anna Walker July 15, 1951, in Wilkinson. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons and daughters-in-law, the Rev. Mark and Kathy Helm of Lapel, the Rev. Stephen and Julie Helm of Jupiter, Fla., and the Rev. Daniel and Andria Helm of Mexico, Ind.; a daughter and son-in-law, Lydia and Michael Nafpliotis of Marietta, Ga.; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a brother, the Rev. Loran Helm of Parker City; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were four brothers, his twin Edward, and Richard, Warren and Terrance; and a grandson, Paul Helm.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Steve Holdzkom and the Rev. Dr. Marcus Blaising officiating. Burial will be in Union Cemetery in Randolph County.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Friday at Rozelle-Johnson Funeral Home, and one hour prior to services at the church Saturday.

Memorials are to New Horizons United Methodist Church Building Fund/Sound System or the Community VNA Hospice.

Eli Fry

CROMWELL — Eli Jesse Fry, 85, died at 4 a.m. Tuesday, July 29, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Fry had operated a lawn maintenance and landscaping business and had lived in the Cromwell area since 1936.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and enjoyed photography and landscaping.

He was born Oct. 31, 1917, in Romona, Mich., to Andy and Ida (Chupp) Fry. In 1945 in Kimmell, he married Helen Bernice McClure. She died June 6, 2001.

Surviving are two sons, Philip Lee Fry of Traverse City, Mich., and Steven Lynn Fry of Muncie; two daughters, Kay Marie Johnson of Knapp Lake and Sue Ann Koontz of California; a sister, Anna Frances McClure of New Mexico; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home. Burial will be at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

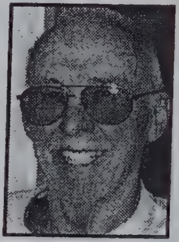
Calling will be from 4-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Diabetes Association.

Donald Ritter

LIGONIER — Former Ligonier Police Chief Donald E. Ritter, 75, died at 7:30 p.m. Monday, July 28, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Ritter served with the Ligonier Police Department 11 years and was chief of police from 1966 to 1972. He then worked at Starcraft and retired from Coachman.


Mr. Ritter

A Navy veteran of World War II, he was a member of the West Noble American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He enjoyed bowling and golf.

Mr. Ritter attended Ligonier Evangelical Church.

He was born May 12, 1928, in York Township, Noble County, to Forrest and Ruth (Growcock) Ritter. He married Lois Mehl on May 22, 1950, in Ligonier. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Chad Ritter of Ligonier; four daughters and sons-in-law, Brenda and Rolland Horein of Goshen, Deborah and Jim Burton of Noma, Fla., Denise and Mahlon Frey of Ligonier, and Pamela and Jack Billgar of Milford; and seven grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Richard "Tex" Ritter.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Ligonier Evangelical Church with the Revs. David Kushman and Steve Cox officiating. Burial will be in Oak Park Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Thursday at Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home and one hour prior to services at the church Friday.

Memorials are to Goshen Home Health Care & Hospice.

THE NEWS SUN
JULY 30 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Services Held

SOUTH MILFORD — Services for **Fedie Blankenship** were held at 1 p.m. Saturday at The Church of the True God with the Revs. Sam Sawyer, Birtchell Mosley and Lee Combs officiating.

Burial was in Mt. Pisgah Cemetery, LaGrange County.

Pallbearers were Steven Blankenship, Caleb Blankenship, Larry Blankenship, Daryl Blankenship, Hillard Gayheart, Lynson Myhnier, Duane Conley and Danny Conley.

Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, was in charge of arrangements.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Lucille Hecht** were held at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. John Lutheran Church with the Rev. Paul B. Griebel officiating.

Burial was in Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Jerry Ripke, Aaron Hecht, Andrew Hecht, Kevin Ply, Jeff McDonough and Caleb Ply.

Hite Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

ROME CITY — Graveside services for **Velva Viola Post** were held at 3 p.m. Monday at Orange Cemetery with Pastor Mark Metz officiating.

Pallbearers were Christopher Weber, Gregory Weber, Grant Weber, David Kauffman, James Lounsbury and Jim Post.

Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Christopher Fisher Sr.

ALDIE, Va. — Christopher James Fisher Sr., 56, died Tuesday, July 29, 2003, at his home from cancer.

Mr. Fisher attended Wolcottville School and graduated in 1965 from Lakeland High School in LaGrange. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and owned Chris J. Fisher and Sons construction company in Aldie.

He was born Aug. 25, 1946, in Wolcottville.

Surviving are his wife, Gail Savage Fisher of Aldie; two sons Christopher J. "C.J." Fisher Jr. of Aldie and Steve W. Fisher of Leesburg, Va.; a daughter, Kimberly Bell of Steven City, Va.; two grandchildren; his mother and stepfather, Harriet and William Mayer of LaGrange; a brother, Steve Fisher of Wolcottville; his twin sister, Connie Garton of Rome City; and a brother-in-law and his wife, Michael and Peggy Manhart of El Paso, Texas.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Loudoun Funeral Chapel, Leesburg, Va. Burial will be in Ivy Hill Cemetery, Upperville, Va.

Calling will be from 5-9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to American Cancer Society, 124 Park St., SE, P.O. Box 699, Vienna, VA 22183-0699.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 30 2003 ALBION, INDIANA

Brian Wesson

KIMMELL – Brian T. "Wes" Wesson, age 62, died on Wednesday, July 23, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana, Fort Wayne.

He was born in Pittsfield, NH on February 25, 1941, to John Thomas and Violet Elizabeth (Tilton) Wesson.

Graduating from Pittsfield High School, Pittsfield, NH, he served in the US Marine Corps. He married Jacqueline Jean Dooley on December 30, 1968, in Rockton, IL. In 1996, he moved from Bear Lake to Kimmell. He was employed by General Motors, Janesville, WI and Fort Wayne, IN plants for 37 years. His memberships included Community Bible Church, Columbia City and UAW, Fort Wayne.

Survivors include five sons, Dave (Sue) Wesson and Shawn Wesson, both of Janesville, WI, Thomas (Cathy) Wesson of Kimmell, Dennis (Amy) Wesson of Albion, and Weldon (Julie) Wesson of Corpus Christi, TX; one daughter, Linda (Dean) Gerber of Neillsville, WI; three brothers, Robert Wesson of Pittsfield, NH, Michael Wesson of Manchester, NH, and John Wesson of Foxford, MA; one sister, Claire (Arnold) Ries of Punta Gorda, FL; and 13 grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, preceding him in death were his wife, Jacqueline who died on September 8, 2000, and a brother, Craig Wesson.

Services were held Sunday, July 27, 2003, at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City, with the Pastors Curtiss Johnson and John Cummings of Community Bible Church officiating. Burial was at Sparta Cemetery, Kimmell.

Memorials may be made in Mr. Wesson's memory to Child Evangelism Ministries, PO Box 612, Winona Lake, IN 46590.

Ina Blanchard

ANGOLA – Ina M. Blanchard, 77, died Tuesday, July 22, 2003, at Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in Angola.

Mrs. Blanchard was born October 30, 1925, in Charlotte, MI, to Wyman and Lena (Trowbridge) Turner. She was a homemaker and formerly worked at Bassett's Restaurant in Angola.

She enjoyed reading and spending time with her grandchildren, as well as visiting friends and family.

Surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Doyle and Sherry Marten of Fremont and Ivan L. Blanchard of Garrett; two daughters and sons-in-law, Charmaine and Mike Kendall of Wawaka and Rosealee Tobart Mosley of Garrett; a daughter and her son, Ina M. and Jered Blanchard of Albion; a friend, Lewis Harmon of Angola; a brother, Robert Turner of Florida; a sister, Lucille Shepard of Battle Creek, MI; 18 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren.

Services were held Friday, July 25, 2003, at Beams Funeral Home in Fremont. Burial was in Lakeside Cemetery, Fremont.

Memorials are to donor's choice.

James Koons

AVILLA – James L. Koons, 88, a longtime Noble County Democratic Party chairman, died Saturday, July 26, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Mr. Koons was a lifetime resident of Avilla and the owner and operator of Koons Supermarket from 1940-1992.

He served as Noble County Democratic Party chairman from 1944-2001 and was named chairman emeritus in 2001. On June 4, 1990, he was presented the Sagamore of the Wabash by then Gov. Evan Bayh. He also served as the 3rd Congressional District chairman for the Democratic Party.

He was a 1933 graduate of Avilla High School. He was the former chairman of the March of Dimes and member of the Avilla Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Koons was a lifetime member of the Kendallville Elks and the Moose Lodge. He served on numerous local committees and helped bring bingo to St. Mary's Catholic Church. He was a longtime sponsor of Avilla Baseball and a die-hard Chicago Cubs baseball fan.

He was born June 1, 1915, in Avilla to William and Cecelia (Ley) Koons. On August 23, 1995, he married Dorothy Finney in St. Mary's Catholic Church. She survives.

Also surviving is a daughter, Ann Koons of Chicago.

Preceding him in death were a son, Father James Koons, on August 6, 1998; four brothers, Charles, Harold, Dick and Burt; and a sister, Edith VanHouten.

Services were held Wednesday, at St. Mary's Catholic Church with Fathers Daniel Durkin and David Rasner officiating. Burial was in St. Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery.

Memorials are Masses to the church.

ALBION NEW ERA
JULY 2003
30
ALBION, INDIANA

Ursula Miller

FORT WAYNE – Ursula J. Miller, 85, died Thursday, July 24, 2003, at Parkview Hospital. The Fort Wayne native had spent a lifetime of activity in Republican politics. At age 19, she wrote her first successful political platform for the Governor of the State of Indiana. In 1939, she was appointed Deputy Allen County Auditor and became Chief Deputy in 1940. She attended the Republican National Convention in 1940. On August 16, 1941, she married Wayne L. Miller. Active in Community affairs, she was named Chairman of the Development Committee for the Girl Scouts of America, was instrumental in the formation of The Limberlost Council and served as their first president. Mrs. Miller worked as a legal assistant at the Wayne L. Miller Law Firm until 1964, when she was appointed Executive Assistant to Fort Wayne Mayor Harold S. Zeis, serving in his administration for two terms. In 1967, the Allen County Republican Central Committee named her City Vice-Chairman. In 1971, she became manager of the New Haven License Branch and in 1975, was appointed Clerk of the Board of Public Works, serving in the Mayor Robert Armstrong Administration. In 1979, she was named Honorary Commander of the Garrison. In 1980, she worked for the Allen County Women's Republican Club and The Indiana Federation of Republican Women. In 1983, she assisted in the operation of the Republican Headquarters office as Special Assistant to the County Chairman. In 1986, she was honored by the Indiana Young Republicans as "The First Lady of the Republican Party."

Survivors include her daughters, Victoria (Larry) Sessler of Las Vegas, Nevada, Mary Martha (Alan D.) Bennington, Patty Lou (David S.) Chase, Becky Jo (Don) Paris, Katie (Jim) Friedley, and Brenda Lynn Miller, all of Fort Wayne; a sister, Peggy Hawn of Wawaka; eight grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Miller was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne L. Miller, in 1964; a daughter, Susan Elizabeth Miller, in 1982, and a sister, Maxine M. Kelly, in 1995.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Monday, July 28, 2003, at St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church in Fort Wayne. Burial was in Lindenwood Cemetery.

Preferred memorials to Matthew 25 Health & Dental Clinic, Turnstone Center for Disabled Children & Adults, or Masses.

Sandra Barton

ALBION – Sandra F. Barton, 63, died Wednesday, July 23, 2003, in her residence in Albion.

She was born December 2, 1939 to Felix and Mammie (Savark) Malkaski in Owosso, MI.

Mrs. Barton was a case manager at ADEC Corp. in Bristol, IN before moving to Albion. She lived in this area for four years.

She married Duray H. "Bud" Barton in Indianapolis. He survives.

Also surviving are a son, Michael D. Barton in Florida; one brother, Donald Malkaski of Michigan; and her beloved bulldog, Boomer.

Services were held Monday, July 28, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery in Albion.

Hattie Russell

ALBION – Hattie L. Russell, 89, of Albion, died Sunday, July 27, 2003, in Parkview Whitley Hospital, Columbia City.

She was born on May 20, 1914, in Fonde, Kentucky to Paris Wylie and Mossie Smith Wylie.

She married Ernest Russell in March of 1954 in Peru, IN.

She worked as a cook at Smith-Green Community Schools before retiring. She enjoyed quilting and gardening.

Mrs. Russell is survived by one daughter, Linda Shelton of Fort Wayne; four sons, Ray Howell of Toledo, OH, James (Elizabeth) Russell of Sneedville, TN, Larry Russell of Churubusco, and Bill (Gale) Russell of Churubusco; one brother, Jack Wylie of LaFollette, TN; two sisters, Pauline Miracie of Fort Wayne, and Margarete Ginkinger of Whitehall, PA; 21 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ernest in 1969; her parents; two brothers, Edward and Charles; and three sisters, Helen Muzingo, Gladys Pierce and Ruby.

Services will be Thursday, July 31, 2003, at 11:00 a.m. in Orr Funeral Home of Churubusco with Rev. Eddie Jones officiating. Burial will follow in Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

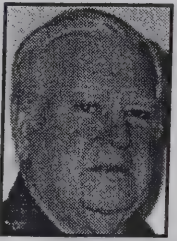
Visitation will be Wednesday, July 30, 2003, from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m. in Orr Funeral Home and one hour prior to services on Thursday.

Memorial contributions can be made to the American Lung Association or the charity of your choice.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana
JULY 31 2003

Beryl Loutzenhiser

GARRETT — Beryl Eugene Loutzenhiser, 78, of Garrett died at 10:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 29, 2003.


Mr. Loutzenhiser

Mr. Loutzenhiser was a veteran of World War II, serving with distinction in the 4th Marine Division as member of the survey section of a 105 Howitzer battalion. He was decorated for service in the battles of Saipan, Tinian and Iwo Jima in the Pacific Theater.

He retired as plant general foreman from Mossberg Industries (Hubbard Spool) in Garrett 1986 after 40 years of service.

Mr. Loutzenhiser was a member of the Garrett Baptist Church and the Garrett post of the American Legion.

A lifelong Garrett resident, he was born July 2, 1925, to Van Sr. and Maude (Mountz) Loutzenhiser.

On Jan. 24, 1953, he married Imogene Mary Crothers. The couple recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Surviving are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Becky and Larry Madden of Nashville, Tenn., Jan Moffitt of Leo and Suzanne and David Hurd of Garrett; three sons and two daughters-in-law, Barry and Gerry Loutzenhiser of LaGrange, Terry Loutzenhiser of Garrett, Van and Alice Loutzenhiser of Auburn, 11 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren; a sister, Gretchen VanGilder of Irons, Mich.; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, Van. Jr., Vernon, Dale and Ralph Loutzenhiser, and one sister, Vera.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday in Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, with Pastor Art Ferry officiating. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery of rural Garrett, with military graveside by Garrett Post 178 of the American Legion.

Calling is Friday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. in the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Heart Association, the World War II Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., or to a veteran's organization of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be sent by e-mail to condolencethomas@skyenet.net.

Services Held

AVILLA — Services for **Sandra F. Barton** were held Monday at Brazzell Funeral Home with Deaconess Karen Kosberg officiating.

Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Albion.

Pallbearers were Sammy Wolf, Larry Wolf, Gus Wolf, Bryan Wolf, Bruce Pelkin, Brandon Wolf, Lyle Pelkin and Mike Rush.

AVILLA — Services for **James L. Koons** were held Wednesday at St. Mary's Catholic Church with Father Daniel Durkin officiating.

Burial was in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Bob Krock, Jimmy Coats, Bill Freeman, Craig VanGessel, Barry Bolinger, Jack Traxler, Mark Sible, Fred Demske and Richard Koons.

Brazzell Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Lloyd Keck

LIGONIER — Lloyd A. Keck, 92, died Tuesday, July 29, 2003, at Oak Leaf Village.

Mr. Keck was a native of LaGrange County and had lived most of his life there. He retired from Starcraft Manufacturing in Topeka.

He was born June 29, 1911, to Clyde and Maude (Fields) Keck. On Oct. 26, 1929, he married Martha Lee Rush. She died July 8, 1973.

Surviving are two sons, Lee A. Keck of Loganton, Pa., and Edward B. Keck of Bryan, Ohio; two daughters and sons-in-law, Mary and Ernie Schemahorn of Sturgis, Mich., and Linda and David Jones of Syracuse; a sister, Lucile Sanford of Coldwater, Mich.; nine grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding him in death were a son, John C. Keck, who died in February 2002, and a brother, Harvey J. Keck.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with Pastor Willis Fields officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be from 4-8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the LaGrange County Cancer Society.

THE NEWS SUN Kendallville, Indiana
JULY 2003
31

Janet Boggs

HOWE — Janet L. Boggs, 65, died Wednesday, July 30, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. Boggs was the office manager for ARC Opportunities in Howe. She had moved to LaGrange County in 1978 from Dayton, Ohio.

She was a member of the LaGrange Church of the Nazarene.

She was born June 23, 1938, in Dayton to Wilford V. and Mildred A. (Priser) Windsor. On April 1, 1978, she married Burdette O. Boggs. He survives.

Also surviving are two stepdaughters and their husbands, Sheila and Randall Adkins of Prosser, Wash., and Sharon and Joni Stutzman of Gilbert, Minn.; four stepgrandchildren; and five stepgreat-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death was a stepgrandson, Michael Adkins, who died Dec. 12, 2002.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at LaGrange Church of the Nazarene with the Rev. Eugene Sommer officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be from 3-5 and 6-8 p.m. Friday at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange.

Memorials are to LaGrange Church of the Nazarene.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 1 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Ida Miller

MIDDLEBURY — Ida "Lottie" Miller, 89, died Thursday, July 31, 2003, at American Health Center in Goshen where she had resided for the last eight years.

She was a homemaker and had spent most of her life in the Middlebury area.

Mrs. Miller was a member of Woodlawn Amish Mennonite Church.

She was born Dec. 10, 1913, in Sorento County, Colo., to Jacob and Annie (Schrock) Gingerich. She married Levi E. Miller June 30, 1932, He died in 1971.

Surviving are a daughter, Ann Troyer of Middlebury; three sons and two daughters-in-law, Dennis Miller of Bristol, Willie and Marilyn Miller of Wakarusa and Pete and Karen Miller of Hissboro, Ore.; five sisters and four brothers-in-law, Fannie Fry, Levi and Amanda Jones, Levi and Emma Schrock, LeRoy and Elizabeth Miller and Albert and Ella Schrock, all of Shipshewana; two brothers, Ezra Gingerich of Shipshewana and Moses Gingerich of Goshen; 20 grandchildren; and two great-granchildren.

Also preceding her in death were two sons, Robert and Elmer; a great-grandson; and a brother, Ura Gingerich.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Woodlawn Amish Mennonite Church with the Revs. Elmer Miller and the Rev. Glen Miller officiating. Burial will be in Forest Grove Cemetery.

Calling will be from 5-8 p.m. Monday and 3-8 p.m. Tuesday at the church.

Wilma Church

AUBURN — Wilma Kathryn Church, 83, died Thursday, July 31, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

A homemaker, she was born Nov. 16, 1919, in Butler to George and Ethel (Worthington) Blackwell.

She married George Church on April 8, 1939, in Auburn. He died Dec. 17, 1996.

She is survived by two daughters, Sandy A. Miskuff of Atlanta, Ga., and Sharon B. Cobbs of Auburn; seven grandchildren and their spouses, Ty and Janise Cobbs of Corunna, Todd and Chris Cobbs of Auburn, Dean and Mindy Miskuff of Buford, Ga., Laura and Dave Hiler of Leo, Georganna and Rob Hoffman of Evansville, Lynda and Michael Brookshire of Atlanta and Robin and Ron Buck of Largo, Fla; 17 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Helen Blackwell.

A private family graveside service will take place Monday morning in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett. The Rev. Al Black will officiate.

Calling will be Sunday from 6-8 p.m. at Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo.

Memorials are to DeKalb Home Health Care.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN

AUGUST 2 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Otis Mills

KENDALLVILLE — Otis G. Mills, 81, died Wednesday, July 30, 2003, at his residence.

He was born on July 14, 1922, in Fort Wayne, to Otto Otis and Lulu Loraine (Hass) Mills. He and his wife, Polly, were married on April 20, 1959, in Kalamazoo, Mich. She preceded him in death on June 16, 1998.

Mr. Mills was a welder for Kalamazoo Manufacturing Co., where he worked for 32 years, retiring in 1986.

Surviving are a stepson and daughter in law, Earl and Bonnie Conley of Corunna; three daughters, Carol Ramose, Sandra Romero and Betty Hunt, all of California; two brothers, Fred Mills of Fort Wayne, and Robert Mills of California; eight grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and three stepgreat-grandchildren.

Also preceding him in death was a brother, Don Mills.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo, with the Rev. Ralph Diehl officiating. Burial will be at Sedan Cemetery in Corunna.

Calling will be from 3-5 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the charity of the donor's choice.

Anna Retter

WOLCOTTVILLE — Anna M. Retter, 87, died Thursday, July 31, 2003, at her residence.

She was born on Feb. 3, 1916, in Jay County to Herman and Blanche (DeLong) Limbert. She was married to Hobert L. Retter who preceded her in death on Feb. 3, 1997.

Retter was a homemaker who moved from Fort Wayne to Wolcottville in 1950.

She has no survivors.

No services will be held.

Arrangements are by Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange.

Everett Wilhelm

PLEASANT LAKE — Everett W. Wilhelm, 83, died Friday, Aug. 1, 2003, at his residence.

Mr. Wilhelm was born July 24, 1930, in Ashley to Ernest and Myrtle (Achemire) Wilhelm. He married Barbara L. Sanders on Dec. 23, 1950, in Ashley.

Mr. Wilhelm

He was a Coast Guard veteran of World War II. He retired in 1979 from International Harvester of Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife; three daughters and sons-in-law, Betty Grandlienard, Violet and Gary Ritter, and Sharon and Jeff Erwin, all of Pleasant Lake; one son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Penny Wilhelm of Hudson; a sister and brother-in-law, Thelma and Joe Costanza of Ashley; 11 grandchildren, Bridgitte Johnson, Jacob Grandlienard, Brandy Ritter, Kirk Ritter, Cory Ritter, Angie Middleton, Brad Erwin, Kevin Erwin, Craig Erwin, and Colt and Dusty Wilhelm; 10 great-grandchildren, Claire Grandlienard, Gwen Johnson, Trevor Johnson, Brad Johnson, Quinton Holloway, Madison Ritter, Dalles Ritter, Blake Ritter, Cort Middleton and Chase Pfefferkorn.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Dorothy Hemsoth.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson, with the Rev. John Boyanowski officiating. Burial will be in Fairfield Cemetery in Corunna, with military graveside services.

Calling will be from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Memorials are to Plum Child Care or donor's choice.

Irene Yearling

FORT WAYNE — Irene E. Yearling, 96, died Friday, Aug. 1, 2003, at 9:45 a.m., at the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana. She had been hospitalized for the past two weeks and entered the hospice home on Wednesday.

Mrs. Yearling was born Sept. 21, 1906, in Sibley, Ill., to W.A. and Laura (Swatsley) Phillips. Following her marriage, she moved to Payne, Ohio, and later moved to Fort Wayne before moving to her home in Eel River Township in rural Allen County in 1938.

As a young woman, she had been employed at Farnsworth Electronics, Roebuck Canning Co., and at Star Dry Cleaning, all in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are one son, Richard E. Yearling of Fort Wayne; three grandchildren, Richard Yearling, Lenny Yearling, and Jill Eckert, all of Fort Wayne; two great-grandchildren; and two stepgreat-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her husband, a daughter-in-law, Mary L. Yearling, two brothers, Art Phillips and Wilson Phillips, and a sister, Rose Wyss.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Homes in Churubusco, with the Rev. Larry Smith, pastor of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, officiating. Interment will be at Lehman Cemetery in Payne.

Calling will be from 2-6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be e-mailed to the family at sympathy@sheetsfuneral-home.com.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 3 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Mrs. Barton was compassionate, respectful

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

ALBION — Sandy Barton worked with people who were less fortunate than she was, always treating them with compassion and respect.

Mrs. Barton

"She was a very caring person," said Carl Zimmerman, employment services director at R.I.S.E. Inc. in Angola. "I felt that she had the ability to be very sensitive or very assertive, depending on what the client needed. She always went the extra mile to assist her clients to better themselves."

Mrs. Barton, 63, died on Wednesday, July 23, 2003, at her home in Albion. She was employed as a case manager at ADEC Corp. in Bristol and had worked as the executive at Project Help in Angola for several years in the early 1990s.

Zimmerman said he and Mrs. Barton had several "clients in common" through the agencies they worked for, and that was how he came to know her. Zimmerman said Mrs. Barton was always helping clients find jobs, and that while she was at Project Help, she kept a separate section of nicer clothes for clients who needed them for job interviews.

Mrs. Barton was born Dec. 2, 1939. She was married to Duray H. "Bud" Barton, who survives.

Mrs. Barton is also survived by a son, Michael Barton, and a brother, Donald Malkaski.

Zimmerman said Mrs. Barton had battled cancer for many years.

"I think it came back like four or fiv times," he said.

When Zimmerman talked to Mrs Barton on the phone recently, he said sh had made the decision to stop cance treatments.

"I said, 'You sound very at peace wit yourself,'" he said. "She said when it wa her time to go, she was going to go."

Zimmerman said his friend never los her sense of humor.

"She had an oxygen tank, and sh called it Ethel," he said with a chuckle.

Zimmerman said if he had to describ Mrs. Barton in one word, it would b "insightful."

"In her job, she needed to be both firm and sensitive. She really needed to know where to draw her lines, and she was good at it," he said.

Janie Handshoe

KENDALLVILLE — Martha Jane "Janie" Handshoe, 60, died Friday, Aug. 1, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker and mother and a member of the Church of Christ in Kendallville.

She was born Feb. 8, 1943, in Hippo, Ky., to Floyd and Sally (Reffitt) Shepherd.

She married Ross Handshoe on May 26, 1961, in Avilla. He survives.

Also surviving are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Byron and Michele Handshoe of Fort Wayne, Darren and Kristen Handshoe of Fort Wayne, and Douglas Handshoe of Kendallville; a daughter and son-in-law, Pamela and Brett Peters of Avilla; six grandchildren, Joshua, Jeremy, Jerod and David Handshoe, and Kyle and Taylor Peters; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Jim Curt Shepherd and Dora Shepherd and Eugene and Lorrain Shepherd, all of Kendallville, and Roger and Bessie Shepherd of Fort Wayne; and five sisters and four brothers-in-law, Madeline Coburn of Ligonier, Patty and Floyd Davis of Hippo, Ky., Juanita and Cecil Crum of Banner, Ky., Irene and Kenneth Castle of Blue River, Ky., and Dora and Kenneth Lazar of Prestonburg, Ky.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at the Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Ellis Crum officiating. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

Calling is from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent to the family or through an online registry at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 3 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

This obituary is being republished with a correction.

Everett Wilhelm

PLEASANT LAKE — Everett W. Wilhelm, 83, died Friday, Aug. 1, 2003, at his residence.

Mr. Wilhelm was born July 24, 1920, in Ashley to Ernest and Myrtle (Achemire) Wilhelm. He married Barbara L. Sanders on Dec. 23, 1950, in Ashley.

Mr. Wilhelm

He was a Coast Guard veteran of World War II. He retired in 1979 from International Harvester of Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife; three daughters and sons-in-law, Betty Grandlienard, Violet and Gary Ritter, and Sharon and Jeff Erwin, all of Pleasant Lake; one son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Penny Wilhelm of Hudson; a sister and brother-in-law, Thelma and Joe Costanza of Ashley; 11 grandchildren, Bridgitte Johnson, Jacob Grandlienard, Brandy Ritter, Kirk Ritter, Cory Ritter, Angie Middleton, Brad Erwin, Kevin Erwin, Craig Erwin, and Colt and Dusty Wilhelm; 10 great-grandchildren, Claire Grandlienard, Gwen Johnson, Trevor Johnson, Brad Johnson, Quinton Holloway, Madison Ritter, Dalles Ritter, Blake Ritter, Cort Middleton and Chase Pfefferkorn.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Dorothy Hemsoth.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson, with the Rev. John Boyanowski officiating. Burial will be in Fairfield Cemetery in Corunna, with military graveside services.

Calling will be from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Memorials are to Plum Child Care or a charity of the donor's choice.

Theressa Snyder

ANGOLA — Theressa S. Snyder, 98, a lifelong Angola resident, died Friday, Aug. 1, 2003, at Lakeland Nursing Center in Angola.

Mrs. Snyder was a homemaker and a 50-year member of the Angola Women of the Moose.

She was born April 4, 1905, in Steuben County to Theodore and Effie (Heroy) Blatter.

She married Ford Snyder on Aug. 21, 1936. He died Sept. 14, 1984.

Surviving are one brother, Ted Blatter of Coldwater, Mich.; a sister, Pearl King of Angola; 10 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; two sons, Phillip Snyder in 1983 and Billy C. Brown in 2001; a daughter, Fairy Ann Wattier, who died earlier this year; a grandson, Stacy Fisher in 1991; three brothers, John, Hershel and Cliff Blatter; and three sisters, Maxine Parker, Nora Crooks and Emma May.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday in Weicht Funeral Home, 207 N. West St., Angola, with the Rev. Norman Fuller offficiating. Burial will be in Circle Hill Cemetery, Angola.

Calling is Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Steuben County Well Child Clinic.

Irene Yearling

FORT WAYNE — Irene E. Yearling, 96, died Friday, Aug. 1, 2003, at 9:45 a.m. in the Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana. She had been a resident there since Wednesday and had been hospitalized for two weeks.

She had been employed at Farnsworth Electronics, the Roebuck Canning Co. and Star Dry Cleaning, all in Fort Wayne.

She was born Sept. 21, 1906, in Champagne, Ill., to W.A. and Laura (Swatsley) Phillips.

Following her marriage to Clarence Yearling, she moved to Payne, Ohio, and later to Fort Wayne before moving to her home in Eel River Township in 1938.

Surviving are a son, Richard E. Yearling of Fort Wayne; three grandchildren, Richard Yearling, Lenny Yearling and Jill Eckert, all of Fort Wayne; two great-grandchildren and two stepgreat-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; a daughter-in-law, Mary Yearling; two brothers, Art Phillips and Wilson Phillips; and a sister, Rose Wyss.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at the Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco. The Rev. Larry Smith, pastor of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Lehman Cemetery at Payne, Ohio.

Calling is Sunday from 2 to 6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@sheetsfuneral-home.com.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 5 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Harold Woodward Sr.

AUBURN — Harold N. Woodward Sr., 75, died Monday, Aug. 4, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn.

He was an electrician at Warner Gear for 30 years, retiring in 1977. He was an Army veteran and member of the American Legion and VFW in Garrett.

Mr. Woodward was born in Corunna to Buford N. and Golda A. Woodward.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Harold and Barbara Woodward of Kendallville; a daughter, Paula A. McDonald of Garrett; a brother, Robert Woodward of Garrett; four grandchildren, Shane Egly of Auburn, Lori Ferguson, Michael McDonald and David McDonald, all of Garrett; five step-grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren, Lyndsee McDonald, Derek McDonald, Roy Phillips, Macen Ferguson and Kiann McDonald, all of Garrett, and Mishelle McDonald and Michael McDonald Jr., both of Edgerton, Ohio; and nine step great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Nelda Y. Woodward; and two brothers, James and Donald Woodward.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Christian Union Cemetery, Auburn. Calling is from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home, 502 N. Main St., Auburn. Memorials are to the DeKalb Cancer Society.

Samuel Chandler

LAGRANGE — Samuel Duane Chandler, 86, died Sunday, Aug. 3, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home, Avilla.

He had lived in LaGrange County since moving there in 1972 from Missouri. He was retired as trainmaster for Norfolk & Southern Railroad.

Mr. Chandler was a member of Stroh Church of Christ.

He was born Dec. 24, 1916, in Wolcottville to John P. and Eva (Hoff) Chandler. On Nov. 19, 1988, in Stroh, he married Eula Goodsell. She survives.

Also surviving are three daughters, Carol Jean Swartz of Leo, Barbara Perl of Highland, Mich., and Sandra Rose of Fort Wayne; two stepsons, James Clugston of LaOtto and Michael Clugston of Kendallville; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

His parents and a brother, James Chandler, preceded him in death.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Frurip-May Funeral Home with Stroh Church of Christ minister Michael Hamm officiating. Burial will be at Lake Bethel Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Stroh Church of Christ.

Olive Davis

AUBURN — Olive M. Davis, 91, died Friday, Aug. 1, 2003, at Wesley Healthcare in Auburn.

Mrs. Davis was a registered nurses aide. She was a member of the Bainbrdidge United Methodist Church in Bainbridge and a former member of the Riley Cheer Guild, Indianapolis, and Adopt a Friend of Logansport.

She was born Sept. 5, 1911, in Kendallville, to Ambrose R. and Lola (Reed) Miller.

She married Donald Davis in January of 1938 in Noble County.

Surviving are a sister, Vada Walter, Auburn; two nieces, Pearl Ellert of Auburn and Tanya Miller of Merrick, N.Y.; two nephews, Bill Geiser of Auburn and Mike Miller of Churubusco; and a number of grand and great-grand nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters, Velma Geiser and Minnie Opal; and a brother, Vilas Miller.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn, pastor David Schleh of the Christian Missionary Church, officiating. There is no calling.

The McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home, Auburn, is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 5 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

LeRoy Krider

COLUMBIA CITY — LeRoy P. "Spud" Krider, 72, died at 3:25 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne after suddenly becoming ill Friday at his home.

Mr. Krider had served in the planning commission field since 1954, serving Fort Wayne, Allen County, Adams County, Whitley County and the Green Hills Region in Missouri. He moved to Missouri in 1972 and retired in 1998 as the executive director of Kaysinger Basin Regional Plan Commission in Missouri. He returned to Whitley County in 1999 shortly after his retirement.

He was born June 3, 1931, in Churubusco to Paul W. and Helen M. (Myers) Krider. He graduated from Churubusco High School in 1949 and then attended Purdue University. He was a member of Warsaw Christian Church.

Mr. Krider served in the United States Air Force from 1950-53 during the Korean War.

On Aug. 16, 1957, in Churubusco, he married Carol Ann Schuman. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Dennis Krider of Cameron, Mo., and Michael and Mary Krider of New Orleans, La., his mother-in-law, Alisa L. "Billie" Schuman of Columbia City; and a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, DeVon and Millie Schuman of Columbia City.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home with the Rev. Ronnie Sams of the First Christian Church in Warsaw officiating. Burial will be in South Park (Original) Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Memorials are in Mr. Krider's memory to Time to Build in care of Warsaw Christian Church.

Cheryl Elliott

WESLEY CHAPEL, Fla. — Former Angola resident Cheryl Ann Elliott, 55, died Friday, Aug. 1, 2003, at Hernando Pasco Hospice House in Dade City, Fla.

Ms. Elliott was born April 13, 1948, in Medford, Ore., to Wymond and Goldie (Worster) Castner. Both her parents survive in Orland.

She was a furniture salesperson for Arhaus in Indianapolis.

Also surviving are two daughters, Kristie Alvis and Libbie Elliott, both of Wesley Chapel; a sister, Sandy Foltz of Orland; and one grandchild.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Weicht Funeral Home, Angola, with Pastor Jim Hulbert officiating. Calling is Wednesday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

Burial will be in Jackson Prairie Cemetery, Steuben County.

Memorials are to Hernando Pasco Hospice House, 37441 Clinton Ave., Dade City, Fla. 33525.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Janie Handshoe** were held at 10 a.m. Monday at Hite Funeral Home with Ellis Crum officiating. Burial was in Christian Union Cemetery, Garrett.

Pallbearers were Blaine Handshoe, Truman Handshoe, Vaughn Handshoe, Dale Handshoe, Derek Ray, Mike Shepherd and Roger Shepherd.

Honorary pallbearers were Joshua Handshoe, Jeremy Handshoe, Jerod Handshoe, David Handshoe, Kyle Peters and Taylor Peters.

THE NEWS SUN

AUGUST 6 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Carl Hicks

BRIMFIELD — Carl Hicks, 70, died Monday, Aug. 4, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Hicks had retired from Kendallville Foundry in 1977 and was a member of the True Church of God in Jesus Name in Brimfield.

Mr. Hicks

He was born April 18, 1933, in War, W.Va., to Richard and Maggie (Brewster) Hicks. In May 1952 in Lebanon, Va., he married Becky Stanley. She died Dec. 31, 2000.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Richard Lee of War; a son and daughter-in-law, Jimmy and Patsy Hicks of Kendallville; a stepson, Herschel Stanley of Fort Wayne; three brothers and two sisters-in-law, David and Geneva Hicks of Brimfield, Ralph and Rita Hicks of Roanoke, Va., and Julis Hicks of Kendallville; three sisters and brothers-in-law, Evelyn and David Scott and Shelby and Walt Pogue, all of Kendallville, and Alma and Ernest Scott of War; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at the True Church of God in Jesus Name with the Rev. Sonny Stanley and Worley Gibson officiating. Burial will be in Orange Cemetery, Brimfield.

Calling will be after 2 p.m. today at the church.

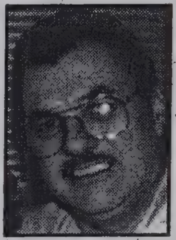
Hite Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Send condolences to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Ronald Hummel Sr.

STROH — Ronald E. Hummel Sr., 63, died Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Hummel was a truck driver for 46 years for Starcraft Marine in Topeka. He had moved to Stroh from Syracuse in 1988.


Mr. Hummel

He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and a member of the Albion American Legion Post and Teamsters Local 414.

Mr. Hummel was born Sept. 21, 1939, in Chicago to Walter and Delores (Gilbert) Hummel. On Oct. 19, 1957, in Bay City, Mich., he married Sandra L. Brown. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Vicki and Don Brown of LaGrange; three sons and two daughters-in-law, Ronald and Cindy Hummel Jr. and Walter and Deana Hummel, all of Goshen, and Mark Farrell of Elkhart; a sister, Virginia Garver of Farwell, Mich.; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange with the Rev. Michael McKinney officiating. Burial will be at a later date in Greenwood Cemetery, LaGrange.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Parkview Home Health & Hospice.

Brice Craft

KENDALLVILLE — Brice C. Craft, 31, died Monday, Aug. 4, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a graduate of East Noble High School and a two-year graduate of Purdue University's hotel and restaurant management program.

Mr. Craft had attended Bethel Christian Baptist Church and had been employed at Flint & Walling.

He was born Jan. 13, 1972, in Fort Wayne to Rick and Debra (Stouder) Craft.

Surviving are his father and stepmother, Rick and Shelley Craft of Avilla; his mother and stepfather, Debra and Milford Terry of Kendallville; a brother, Matthew Craft of Norfolk, Va.; his maternal grandparents, Keith and Shirley Stouder of Kendallville, and his paternal grandparents, Gene and Linda Craft of Fort Wayne.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Hite Funeral Home. Burial will be in Christian Union Cemetery, Garrett.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Ronald McDonald House or Riley Children's Hospital.

Send condolences to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 6 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Violet Yant

CHURUBUSCO — Violet M. Yant, 86, died at 5:40 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2003, at Parkview Whitley Hospital in Columbia City.

Among her survivors are her husband, Merlin; sons Max E. Herendeen of Churubusco and Ralph T. Herendeen of Fort Wayne, and a daughter, Sharon J. Brown of Spokane, Wash.

Arrangements are pending at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home.

Send condolences to sympathy@sheetsfuneral-home.com

ALBION NEW ERA
AUGUST 6 2003 ALBION, INDIANA

Samuel Chandler

LAGRANGE – Samuel Duane Chandler, 86, of LaGrange, died Sunday, August 3, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home, Avilla.

Born December 24, 1916, in Wolcottville, he was the son of the late John P. and Eva (Hoff) Chandler.

He moved from Missouri to LaGrange in 1972, and was a retired Train Master with Norfolk & Southern Railroad. He married Eula (Goodsell) Chandler, November 19, 1988, in Stroh, and she survives.

Also surviving are three daughters, Carol Jean Swartz of Leo, Barbara Perl of Highland, MI, Sandra Rose of Fort Wayne; two stepsons, James H. Clugston of LaOtto and Michael G. Clugston of Kendallville; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his brother, James Chandler.

Services were held Wednesday, August 6, 2003, at Frurip-May Funeral Home of LaGrange, with the Rev. Michael Hamm officiating. Burial was in Lake Bethel Cemetery, LaGrange.

Memorials are to Stroh Church of Christ, Stroh.

Janie Handshoe

KENDALLVILLE – Martha Jane "Janie" Handshoe, 60, died Friday, August 1, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

She was a homemaker and mother and a member of the Church of Christ in Kendallville.

She was born February 8, 1943, in Hippo, KY, to Floyd and Sally (Reffitt) Shepherd.

She married Ross Handshoe on May 26, 1961, in Avilla. He survives.

Also surviving are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Byron and Michele Handshoe of Fort Wayne, Darren and Kristen Handshoe of Fort Wayne, and Douglas Handshoe of Kendallville; a daughter and son-in-law, Pamela and Brett Peters of Avilla; six grandchildren, Joshua, Jeremy, Jerod and David Handshoe, and Kyle and Taylor Peters; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Jim Curt Shepherd and Dora Shepherd and Eugene and Lorrain Shepherd, all of Kendallville, and Roger and Bessie Shepherd of Fort Wayne; and five sisters and four brothers-in-law, Madeline Coburn of Ligonier, Patty and Floyd Davis of Hippo, KY, Juanita and Cecil Crum of Banner, KY, Irene and Kenneth Castle of Blue River, KY, and Dora and Kenneth Lazar of Prestonburg, KY.

Services were held Monday, August, 4, 2003, at the Hite Funeral Home, with the Rev. Ellis Crum officiating. Burial was in Christian Union Cemetery near Garrett.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 7 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Violet Yant

CHURUBUSCO — Violet M. Yant, 86, died at 5:40 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2003, at Parkview Whitley Hospital in Columbia City. Her death was unexpected.

During World War II she was employed at Tokheim Corp. in Fort Wayne and worked as a nurse's aid at Whitley County Hospital in Columbia City for many years. She also served as a Red Cross CPR instructor.

Mrs. Yant

She was a member of Good News Baptist Church and was a longtime volunteer at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Yant was born Dec. 17, 1916, in Allen County to David W. and Bessie Margaret (Cook) Conner.

She first married Otto Max Herendeen and they lived in Avilla and Green Township. He died Nov. 18, 1973.

She then married Merlin R. Yant on Jan. 8, 1976, in Merriam and they lived near Churubusco. He survives.

Also surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Ralph T. Herendeen of Fort Wayne and Max E. and Ann Herendeen of Churubusco; a daughter and son-in-law, Sharon and Dean A. Brown of Bellingham, Wash.; a stepson and his wife, Keith and Judy Yant of Huntertown; a sister, Lois Miller of Rome City; eight grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; two stepgreat-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and three stepgreat-great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by a son, Donald L. Herendeen, on July 18, 1980; two sisters, Elsie Brady and Julia Gaerte; and three brothers, Howard Conner, Ralph Conner and Robert Conner.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home with Pastor Edward A. Thompson of Good News Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Good News Baptist Chruch or to the American Diabetes Association.

Condolences may be e-mailed to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

Nora Nix

FORT WAYNE — Nora Ann (Troutner) Nix, 47, died Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. Nix was vice president at Wells Fargo Bank for 29 years and had served on the boards of many organizations. She enjoyed reading and spending time with her family.

She was born in Fort Wayne and graduated from South Side High School in 1974. She attended International Business College and was a member of Most Precious Blood Catholic Church.

Surviving are her husband, Peter A. Nix of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Ashley M., at home; two sons, Alexander P. and Elliott P., both at home; her father, Thomas A. Troutner of Fort Wayne; her mother, Mary K. Troutner of Fort Wayne; a stepdaughter, Amy Reinking, and stepgrandchild, Sumaiya, both of Fort Wayne; five brothers, Gregory, M. Scott, and Steven, all of Fort Wayne, Jeffrey of San Rafael, Calif., and D. Mark of Albion; her grandmother, M. Maxine Evans of Fort Wayne; and her mother-in-law, Julia J. Konkle of Fort Wayne.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. today at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home and from 8:30-9:45 a.m. Friday at the church.

Memorials are to the Precious Blood Sunday school class.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 7 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Meghan Sarrazine

GARRETT — Meghan B. Sarrazine, 2, died Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2003, at 10:01 p.m., at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne, after a construction accident near Garrett.

Meghan Sarrazine

She was born Sept. 5, 2000, in Fort Wayne, to Douglas L. and Eileen M. (McRoden) Sarrazine and they survive.

She was a member of St. Vincent Catholic Church, Fort Wayne.

Also surviving are two brothers, Zachary Sarrazine and Nicholas Sarrazine, both of Garrett; two sisters, Andrea Sarrazine and Danielle Sarrazine, both of Garrett; her grandfather, Leo Sarrazine of Auburn; her grandmother, Josephine McRoden of New Haven; and her great-grandfather, Charles Brady of Dublin, Ireland.

She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Marilyn Sarrazine, and her grandfather, Llewellyn McRoden.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Vincent Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, with Father John Kuzmich officiating.

Burial will be in the Cedar Creek Cemetery, Garrett.

Calling is from 5-8 p.m. Friday at the Thomas Funeral Home, 1277 C.R. 56, Garrett, and one hour prior to services at the church.

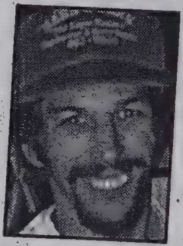
A wake service will be Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Riley Children's Hospital.

Gary Jordan

FORT WAYNE — Gary W. Jordan, 50, died Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

Mr. Jordan operated Bark & Bark Tree Service and had worked for Perfection Bakery.


Mr. Jordan

He was a member of Most Precious Blood Catholic Church.

Surviving are his father, Donald E. Jordan of Fort Wayne; a son, Justin Jordan of Fort Wayne; his companion, Lynn Graves of Fort Wayne; four brothers, Neal Jordan, Dennis Jordan and Keith Jordan, all of Fort Wayne, and Donald Jordan of Huntertown; two sisters, Elaine Kreitzer of Stroh and Teresa Sunderland of Ashley; a grandson, Ethan M. Johnson of Fort Wayne; 24 nieces and nephews; and 11 great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Agnes E., in 1999; his mother, Jeniece Jordan; and a brother, Kevin Jordan.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Friday at Mungovan & Sons Memorial Chapel and one hour prior to services at the church Saturday.

Memorial are to the family.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 8 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Alma Woodcock

AUBURN — Alma L. Woodcock, 86, died Thursday, Aug.. 7, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home, Avilla.

She was a homemaker and had worked in the Fort Wayne Knitting Mill for several years in the 1930s. She was a babysitter for several area families. She was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn.

She was born Nov. 24, 1916, in Garrett to Frederick B. and Mable E (Rowe) Stoll.

Surviving are three sons, Marvin E. Woodcock of Kendallville, Glen Woodcock of Churubusco, and Thomas L. Woodcock of Fort Wayne; five daughters and three sons-in-law, Carolyn and Dale Healy, Auburn, Gloria and Bill Howe, Auburn, Constance Sue and Lynn Carper, Auburn, Linda Kapp, Hudson, Marjorie Hecht, Fort Wayne; two brothers, Walter Stoll, Ossian and LeRoy Stoll, Huntertown; one sister, Irma Knapp, Garrett; 25 grandchildren, 50 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two grandsons and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at the Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, the Rev. Lloyd Bickel officiating. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Auburn.

Calling is from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday at the Funeral Home. Memorials are to the Trinity Lutheran Church of the American Diabetic Association.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Vera Duncan

CHURUBUSCO — Vera E. Duncan, 78, died Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

She and her husband were founders of Eel River Golf Course in 1965. She was a member of Eel River Baptist Church and enjoyed playing cards, flower gardening, crocheting, knitting, pony races, cooking and baking.

Mrs. Duncan was born March 17, 1965, in Fort Wayne to Grover Cleveland and Ethel Bell (Trimmer) Brown. She married Luther Duncan in July 1944. He died in December 1989.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Don Dafforn of Churubusco; a son, David Blaine Duncan of Davie, Fla.; a longtime friend, Barney Shady of Churubusco; two sisters, Grace Ballard of Fort Wayne and Fern Burnau of Fremont; five grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Orr Funeral Home in Churubusco with the Rev. Lane Burgland officiating. Burial will be in Eel River Cemetery.

Calling will be from 4-8 p.m. today in the funeral home and one hour before services Saturday.

Memorials are to the Muscular Dystrophy Association or Hospice.

Helen Libey

HUDSON — Helen M. Libey, 93, of Hudson, died Thursday at Wesley Health Care in Auburn. Services are pending at Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson.

Phyllis Griffiths

FORT WAYNE — Phyllis A. Griffiths, 61, died Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

Mrs. Griffiths

She had worked at Crossroads Children's Home for five years and at Mutual Life Insurance Co. for 10 years.

Mrs. Griffiths was born July 31, 1942, in Fort Wayne and grew up in Wolcottville. She graduated from North Side High School in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are her father, Ellis Lambert of Fort Wayne; two sons and daughters-in-law, Terry and Kim Griffiths of Fort Wayne and Scott and Jen Griffiths of Springhill, Fla.; a daughter and son-in-law, Peggy and Louie Perez of Fort Wayne; a brother, Steven Lambert; seven grandchildren; two nieces; and one nephew.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Donna (Cochran) Lambert; a son, Robert Griffiths; and a nephew, Marc Irven.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Sunday at Covington Memorial Funeral Home with the Rev. L. Michael Wilson officiating. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

Robert Richards

ASHLEY — Robert O. Richards, 78, of Ashley, died Thursday at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne. He was formerly employed at WIFF Radio in Auburn. Services are pending at Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 8 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Dana Ludlow

NORTH TURNER, Maine — Dana Kane Ludlow, 54, died Aug. 1, 2003, at St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston.

He had worked as an investigator for the prosecutor's office in LaGrange County, Ind., and for the Department of Human Services, Disabled Children Department. He had also sold real estate, was a farmer at Ye Old Farm in North Turner and most recently worked for Central Maine Independent News in Lewiston.

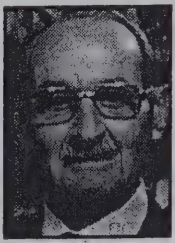
Mr. Ludlow was born Jan. 1, 1949, in Anderson, Ind., the son of Eugene E. and Mary Barbara Kane Ludlow. He graduated from Indiana University in 1972.

Surviving are a son, Jamie Ludlow of North Turner, his mother and stepfather, Barbara and George Kennedy of North Turner; a brother, Richard Ludlow of Schnider, Ind.; and three sisters, Susan D. Kane of Roanoke, Va., Nancy Baum of Auburn, Ind., and Mary Beth Maskow of Brighton, Ind.

Services will be today at Finley Funeral Home, Livermore Falls.

Condolences may be e-mailed to Finley@explore-maine.com.

Willard Garmire


Mr. Garmire

FORT WAYNE — Willard A. Garmire, 100, died Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2003, at Regency Place Nursing Home in Fort Wayne.

He had been the service manager of Goodyear Tire Service of Fort Wayne for 40 years. He was a member of 1st Presbyterian Church of LaGrange, Wayne Lodge No. 25 F&AM in Fort Wayne, Travelers Protective Association and United Commercial Travelers.

Mr. Garmire was born March 6, 1903, in LaGrange County to Horace B. and May (Hostetter) Garmire. On Aug. 11, 1927, in LaGrange, he married Wilma J. Machan. She died Feb. 14, 2002.

Surviving are a son, James B. Garmire of New Haven, and a brother, Paul Jacob "Jake" Garmire of Fort Wayne.

Also preceding him in death were two sisters, Blanch Lonie and Thelma Teeter.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, with the Rev. Russell Hepler officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery.

Calling will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Shriners Hospitals for Children or 1st Presbyterian Church.

Lorah Campbell

FORT WAYNE — Lorah R. Campbell, 71, died Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2003, at her home.

She has been a manager at many hotel chains for the past 27 years. She was a member of the Women of the Moose and the Eagles Auxiliary in New Haven.

Mrs. Campbell was a member of Third Street Church of God.

Surviving are her husband, Harry Leo Campbell of Fort Wayne; a son, Robert Chapman of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Madaline Smithhart of Leo and Sue Ferris of Avilla; a brother, Lester Hettinger of Logansport; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at D.O. McComb & Sons Maplewood Park Funeral Home. Burial will be in Star City West Cemetery at Star City.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. An Eagles service will be at 7:30 p.m.

Memorials are to the family.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 8 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Charles Krider

FORT WAYNE — Charles F. Krider, 80, died Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2003, at Hospice Home in Fort Wayne.

He was a World War II veteran and retired from International Harvester in 1983.

He and his wife served as family care providers for ARC for 36 years.

Mr. Krider was born March 25, 1925, in Dunkirk, Ohio, the son of Opal Burdette and Dewey Krider.

Surviving are his wife, Betty; two daughters, Charlene Knepper of LaOtto and Diana Moore of Fort Wayne; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two stepgreat-grandchildren.

No services. Burial will be at Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Calling will be from 1-3 p.m. today at C.M. Sloan & Sons Funeral Home.

Memorials to Hospice Home, 5910 Homestead Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46814.

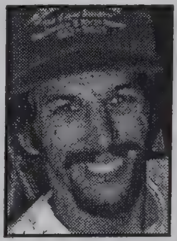
THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 9 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

The following obituary is being republished to provide additional information.

Gary Jordan

FORT WAYNE — Gary W. Jordan, 50, died Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital.

Mr. Jordan operated Bark & Bark Tree Service and had worked for Perfection Bakery.


Mr. Jordan

He was a member of Most Precious Blood Catholic Church.

Surviving are his father, Donald E. Jordan of Fort Wayne; a son, Justin Jordan of Fort Wayne; his companion, Lynn Graves of Fort Wayne; four brothers, Neal Jordan, Dennis Jordan and Keith Jordan, all of Fort Wayne, and Donald Jordan of Huntertown; three sisters, Elaine Kreitzer of Stroh, Teresa Sunderland of Ashley and Beverly MacDonald of Fort Wayne; a grandson, Ethan M. Johnson of Fort Wayne; 24 nieces and nephews; and 11 great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Agnes E., in 1999; his mother, Jeniece Jordan; and a brother, Kevin Jordan.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church. Burial will be in Catholic Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. Friday at Mungovan & Sons Memorial Chapel and one hour prior to services at the church Saturday.

Memorials are to the family.

Tyler Lee Freeman

GARRETT — Tyler Lee Freeman, infant, died Thursday, Aug. 7, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital, Auburn.

Survivors include his parents, Jessica Corbin and Jason Freeman, both of Garrett; grandparents, Julie Corbin and Terry and Vonda Freeman, all of Garrett, and Don Corbin of Albion; great-grandparents, Bernard and Joan Pence, Bertha Payton, Robert Freeman and Peggy McGlothlin, all of Garrett, and Connie DeVeny of Huntertown; two cousins, Kayla and Bryant Freeman, both of Garrett; aunts and uncles, Patty Provines and Jeff Provines of Auburn, and Chasity Freeman and Joe Freeman of Garrett.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Lily Rose Corbin, and a great-grandfather, Robert Payton.

Graveside services will take place at 1 p.m. Monday at Calvary Cemetery, Garrett. There is no calling.

Arrangements are by McComb, Dilgard & Cline Funeral Home, 502 N. Main St., Auburn.

Memorials are to the family.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 10 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Doris Thompson

KENDALLVILLE — Doris Annette Thompson, 82, of Kendallville, died Friday, Aug. 8, 2003, in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Thompson

Mrs. Thompson was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother.

She attended Ball State University, where she was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

She was a member of the Kendallville chapter of Tri-Kappa and a long time member of the Trinity Church United Methodist.

She had the distinction of becoming the first woman in DeKalb County to earn her private pilot's license in Noble County in 1967.

She was born July 16, 1921, in Helmer.

She married Dr. Alden Blake Thompson DDS on Aug. 9, 1942, in Helmer. He died on Feb. 11, 2000.

Surviving are a daughter, Sally Annette Thompson-Calderon; a son, Dr. John Blake Thompson; a daughter-in-law, Diane L. Thompson; seven grandchildren, Andrea, William and Ellyssa Calderon, Lacey and Maxwell Thompson and Ryan and Shane Replogle; a brother, Verle D. Whysong of Spokane, Wash.; and a sister, Clarice W. Rogers of Kendallville.

She was preceded in death by her husband and two sons, Dr. William Alden Thompson on March 29, 1984, and James Albert Thompson on Dec. 19, 1959.

Calling will be 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home at 222 South St., Kendallville.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the funeral home with the Rev. Dr. David Hogsett of Trinity Church United Methodist officiating.

Burial is in the Lake View cemetery.

Memorials to the Kendallville Library Foundation.

Coralie Holman

ST. JOE — Coralie B. Holman, 88, died Friday, Aug. 8, 2003, at the Laurels of DeKalb.

She was born March 26, 1915, to Hollis A. and Gail M. (Hamilton) Knox in Olvis, Minn.

She married Aaron Holman on Oct. 26, 1934, in Butler. He died on Feb. 7, 2002.

Surviving are three daughters, Gailanna Ransom of Avilla, Karen Smith of New Orleans, and Pamela Bello of Rocklin, Calif.; two sons, Allen and Carlyle Holman, both of St. Joe; two brothers, Florin and Glen Knox, both of Auburn; a sister, Onalee Moughler of Waterloo; 15 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Aaron; a daughter, Wanda Holley; a brother, Will Knox; and a sister, Majel Moughler.

Calling will be Tuesday from 2-8 p.m. at H.E. Johnson and Son Funeral Home, Butler.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the St. Joe Church of Christ with the Rev. Larry Watson and the Rev. Douglas Holley officiating.

Memorials are to the church.

David Carter

ALBION — David E. Carter, 82, of Albion, died Saturday, Aug. 9, 2003, in Lutheran Hospital of Fort Wayne.

He was a former member of Merriam Christian Chapel and enjoyed fishing, woodworking and his family.

He was born on Oct. 27, 1920, to Otis D. and Chloa Mae (Connell) Carter.

He married Phyllis K. Bonar on Feb. 19, 1943, in Columbia City. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Debra and John Landa of Albion; two sons, Phillip Carter of Fort Wayne and Dennis Carter of Ligonier; 12 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, David Carter in 1950; one brother and four sisters.

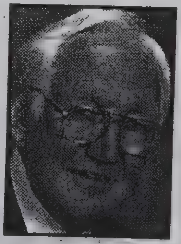
Private graveside services are scheduled for today.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 10 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Dick Bercaw, Butler civic leader, dies

BUTLER — Dick Bercaw, 85, died Saturday Aug. 9, 2003.

Mr. Bercaw was president of Maxton Motors in Butler where he worked for 70 years and a past member of the Butler Rotary Club.


Mr. Bercaw

He was a World War II U.S. Navy veteran. He served on the DeKalb Memorial Hospital Board and was instrumental in the building of the current hospital. Over the years, he served on numerous automotive dealer councils. He was a member of the Butler United Methodist Church and Butler American Legion Post 202. He was an avid golfer, and softball player and enjoyed and supported athletics. He graduated from Butler High School where he was on the basketball team.

He was born June 27, 1918 in Edgerton, Ohio, to Carl and Edith Bercaw.

He was married to Lois O. (Buttermore) Bercaw. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons and daugters-in-law, Jack N. and Elaine Bercaw of Fremont, Randy L. and Sally Bercaw of Butler, and Rex D. and Kristine Bercaw of Auburn; six grandchildren; and a sister, Betty Jean Myers of Fort Wayne.

Calling will be Monday from 2-8 p.m. at H.E. Johnson and Son Funeral Home, Butler.

Services will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Butler United Methodist Church with pastor Dan Ekhart officiating.

Memorials are to the Eastside Foundation - Dick and Lois Bercaw Scholarship Fund or Junior Achievement for the benefit of DeKalb Eastern Schools.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 11 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Anna Miller

SHIPSHEWANA — Anna S. Miller, 89, died Sunday, Aug. 10, 2003, at Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana at Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Miller was a homemaker and had been in declining health for two weeks following a stroke.

She was a member of Roselawn Conservative Mennonite Church, Middlebury.

Mrs. Miller

She was born Nov. 17,1913, in Haven, Kan., to Samuel T. and Mary (Borntrager) Shrock. On Jan. 30, 1934, in Haven she married Chris J. Miller. He died Aug. 16, 2002.

Surviving are eight daughters and sons-in-law, Mary Ellen and Harry Yoder of Middlebury, Irma and Don Zook of Burr Oak, Mich., Katie and Lester Shrock of Shipshewana, LaVera and Rodney Troyer of White Pigeon, Mich., Sharon and Glenn Troyer of Elida, Ohio, Cynthia and Rand Walter of Howe, and Alta and Amos Miller and Wilma and Buryl Grossman all of LaGrange; four sons and three daughters-in-law, Wilbur and Liz Miller of Goshen, Gordon and Wanda Miller of Shipshewana, Alton and Margaret Miller of Middlebury and Samuel Miller of Millersburg; four sisters, Katie Eash and Wilma Wingard, both of Shipshewana, Emma Miller of Goshen and May Miller of Middlebury; three brothers, Felty Schrock of Topeka, Levi Schrock of Shipshewana and Eli Schrock of Bradenton, Fla.; 26 grandchildren and 38 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were a grandson, a great-grandson, two sisters, Sarah Noelle and Clara Schrock; and two brothers, Edward Schrock and Samuel Schrock.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Emma Mennonite Church, Topeka, with the Rev. Harry Yoder, Mrs. Miller's son-in-law and pastor of Roselawn Conservative Mennonite Church, officiating. Burial will be in Shore Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling will be from 2-8 p.m. Tuesday and one hour before services Wednesday at the church.

Memorials are to Hospice Home of Northeast Indiana.

This obituary is being republished with additional information.

Margaret Blech

KENDALLVILLE — Margaret Louise Blech, 80, died Saturday, Aug. 9, 2003, at Kendallville Manor Healthcare Center.

Mrs. Blech

Mrs. Blech had been employed at McCray Refrigeration in Kendallville for more than 20 years and had worked in the office there. She was a member of Charm & Chatter Home Extension Club and had received a 50-year membership award in 2001.

She and her husband, Paul, had traveled in their recreational vehicle to every state in the U.S. with their travel club.

Mrs. Blech was born Dec. 3, 1922, in Wayne Township to Harold and Mildred (Barker) Kline.

Surviving are her husband, Paul of Kendallville; a son and daughter-in-law, Rex and Dorothy Blech of Pleasant Lake; a daughter, Karen Garza of Kendallville; a grandson, Neal Swager of Kendallville; a granddaughter, April Etter of Auburn; and a great-granddaughter, Madison Etter of Auburn.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Kline.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. John Lutheran Church, Kendallville, with the Rev. Paul B. Griebel officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville.

Memorials are to St. John Lutheran Church.

Condolences can be e-mailed to www.hitefuneral-home.com.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 11 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Doris Thompson

KENDALLVILLE — Doris Annette Thompson, 82, of Kendallville, died Friday, Aug. 8, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Thompson was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother.

She attended Ball State University, where she was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

She was a member of the Kendallville chapter of Tri-Kappa and a longtime member of the Trinity Church United Methodist.

Mrs. Thompson

She had the distinction of becoming the first woman to earn her private pilot's license in Noble County in 1967.

She was born July 16, 1921, in Helmer the daughter of Harold and Nellie (Gunsaullus) Whysong.

She married Dr. Alden Blake Thompson DDS on Aug. 9, 1942, in Helmer. He died on Feb. 11, 2000.

Surviving are a daughter, Sally Annette Thompson-Calderon of Fort Wayne; a son and daughter-in-law, Dr. John Blake and Diane L. Thompson of Fort Wayne; seven grandchildren, Andrea, William and Ellyssa Calderon, Lacey and Maxwell Thompson and Ryan and Shane Replogle; a brother, Verle D. Whysong of Spokane, Wash.; and a sister, Clarice W. Rogers of Kendallville.

Also preceding her in death were two sons, Dr. William Alden Thompson on March 29, 1984, and James Albert Thompson on Dec. 19, 1959.

Calling will be Tuesday 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home at 222 South St., Kendallville.

Services will be at [illegible] Wednesday at the funeral home with the Rev. Dr. David Hogsett of Trinity Church United Methodist officiating.

Burial is in the Lake View cemetery.

Memorials to the Kendallville Library Foundation or Trinity Church United Methodist.

R. Miriam Hart

HOWE — R. Miriam Hart, 84, died Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. Hart was a lifetime resident of LaGrange County and retired as a secretary from LaGrange County REMC.

She was born Oct. 16, 1918, in Brighton to Galen and Lydia (Long) Walters. On April 15, 1954, she married Fay W. Hart in Crown Point. He died in February 1960.

Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Sharon and Wayne Gulley of LaGrange; a son, Michael Hart of LaGrange; a sister, Marilyn Gochenaur of Howe; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Also preceding her in death was a sister, Maxine Peters.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Friday at English Prairie Church of the Brethren, Howe. Burial will be in English Prairie Cemetery, Howe.

Calling will be from 1-3 p.m. Friday at the church.

Memorials are to English Prairie Church of the Brethren.

Frurip-May Funeral Home, LaGrange, is in charge of arrangements.

Dorothy Carpenter

LAGRANGE — Dorothy V. Carpenter, 85, died Sunday, Aug. 10, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

She had spend most of her life in LaGrange County and was a homemaker and had worked as a nurses' aide at Miller's Merry Manor.

Mrs. Carpenter

She was a member of the United Methodist Women.

Mrs. Carpenter was born April 1, 1918, in Brook to John H. "Harry" and Berniece (Hayworth) Rayner. On June 22, 1936, she married Carl L. Carpenter in LaGrange. He died May 31, 1975.

Surviving are three daughters and sons-in-law, Shirley and Kevin Heupel of Defiance, Mo., Darlene and Richard DeRose of Boca Raton, Fla., and Lois and Ron Hathaway of Idaho Springs, Colo.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Cindy Carpenter of Ledyard, Conn., and Charles and Carol Carpenter of Galien, Mich.; two sisters, Mary Lou Prough of LaGrange and Helen Watson of Kendallville; 21 grandchildren; and 28 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at Frurip-May Funeral Home. Burial will be at Brighton Cemetery, Howe.

Calling will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Howe United Methodist Church.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 11 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Coralie Holman

ST. JOE — Coralie B. Holman, 88, died Friday, Aug. 8, 2003, at the Laurels of DeKalb nursing home in Butler.

Mrs. Holman was a homemaker and a member of the St. Joe Church of Christ.

She was born March 26, 1915, in Olivia, Minn., to Hollis A. and Gail M. (Hamilton) Knox.

She married Aaron Holman on Oct. 26, 1934, in Butler. He died Feb. 7, 2002.

Surviving are three daughters and sons-in-law, Gailanna and Ed Ransom of Avilla, Karen and Myron Smith of New Orleans, and Pamela and Chris Bello of Rocklin, Calif.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Allen and Patricia Holman and Carlyle and Sheila Holman, all of St. Joe; two brothers, Florin and Glen Knox, both of Auburn; a sister, Onalee Moughler of Waterloo; 15 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Wanda Holley; a brother, Will Knox; and a sister, Majel Moughler.

Services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the St. Joe Church of Christ. The Rev. Larry Watson and the Rev. Douglas Holley will officiate. Burial will be in Alton Cemetery of St. Joe.

Calling is Tuesday from 2-8 p.m. at H.E. Johnson and Son Funeral Home, 212 N. Broadway, Butler.

Memorials are to the St. Joe Church of Christ.

Paul Easterday

SHIPSHEWANA — Paul H. Easterday, 78, died at 8:20 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Easterday

Mr. Easterday worked at Adnerson-Bollign at Goshen for 40 years as a tow motor operator.

He was a U.S. Army veteran.

He was born Dec. 13, 1924, in LaGrange County to Hugh and Orpha (Nelson) Easterday. On Dec. 4, 1982, he married Murnice Doebler and she survives.

Surviving are two sons, James and Benjamin Easterday, both of Shipshewana; a stepson, Daniel Schlabach of Shipshewana; three sisters, Gladys Conner of Christopher, Ill., Margaret Simpson of LaGrange and Betty Hostetler of Edwardsburg, Mich.; and a brother and sister-in-law, Ernest Lee and Pat Easterday Fremont.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Maurice and Levi Easterday.

Services will be at 3 p.m. today at Keightley Cemetery in Shipshewana with the Rev. David L. Hickman of Tri-Lakes Community Church, Bristol, officiating.

Calling will be from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. today at Wolf Community Building in Shipshewana.

Memorials are to Goshen General Hospice.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury, was in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 12 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Paul Lock

COLUMBIA CITY — Paul Raymond Lock, 82, died Monday, Aug. 11, 2003, at his home.

He had retired as the janitorial department group leader at Dana Corp. in Fort Wayne in 1980. He had attended Churubusco High School and was a member of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Mr. Lock was born June 18, 1921, in Churubusco to James L. and Goldie P. (Maggart) Lock. On Aug. 11, 1954, in Columbia City he married Marjorie I. Breisch. She survives.

Also surviving are three sons and daughter-in-laws, Craig and Kathy Lock of Martinsville, James and Cindy Lock of Columbia City, and Daniel and Lisa Lock of Wolf Lake; a daughter and son-in-law, Paula and Loren Kauffman of Columbia City; two sisters, Ada VanDeman and Helen Groves, both of Columbia City; two brothers, Eugene Lock of Albion and Arthur Lock of Churubusco; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Norbert Lock; a sister, Velma Lock; and two grandchildren, Scott and Corina.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home with Pastor David Salyer of Victory Christian Fellowship Church officiating. Burial will be in Nolt Cemetery.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Victory Christian Church Food Pantry.

Condolences can be e-mailed to www.demoney-grimes.com.

Trudy Pairan

ORLAND — Trudy Diane Pairan, 57, died Sunday, Aug. 10, 2003, at her Orland home.

She was the owner and operator of the Beauty Boutique for over 35 years, and a member of Flint United Methodist Church.

She was born Aug. 31, 1945, in Plymouth, to Louis and Margaret (Loughimore) Klingerman. On Jan. 18, 1964, she married Robert D. Pairan, and he survives in Orland.

Also surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Dennette and Jeff Boswell of Orland and Tammy and Jeff Roberts of Brownsburg; four grandchildren, Nicole and Kylie Boswell and Mitchell and Blake Roberts; two brothers, Terry Klingerman of Fort Wayne and Raymond Klingerman of Orland; and two sisters, Patricia Hullinger of Kendallville and Linda Spillers of Wolcottville.

Services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at Weicht Funeral Home in Angola, with Father Brian Carsten officiating.

Calling will be Wednesday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m.

Burial will be in Flint Cemetery, Steuben County. Memorials are to Cameron Hospice or Flint United Methodist Church.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 13 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Robert Rogers

KENDALLVILLE — Robert Charles Rogers, 80, died Monday, Aug. 11, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital.

Mr. Rogers was a lifetime area farmer and was still farming his own farm. He enjoyed fishing and was known by the nickname "Bluegill Bob."

He was also well known for playing the harmonica and enjoyed entertaining at nursing homes, clubs and churches. He enjoyed teaching others to play the harmonica.

Mr. Rogers

Mr. Rogers was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene in Kendallville, where he taught Sunday school and served on the church board for 48 years. He was also a member of the Gideons International. He was a 1941 graduate of Matthews High School.

He was born June 29,1923, in Blackford County to Charles and Bertha (Payne) Rogers. On Aug. 1, 1950, he married Annabel Longyear at the Wayne Center United Methodist Church north of Kendallville. She survives.

Also surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, the Rev. Dr. Philip and Sherry Rogers of Middletown and Wesley and Patty Rogers of Ekalaka, Mont.; two daughters and sons-in-law, Barbara and Tim Stahl of Archbold, Ohio, and Beth and the Rev. Bruce Banks of Adrian, Mich.; a sister, Charlotte Mitchener of Couch, Mo.; and nine grandchildren, Sondra Stahl, Laura Banks, Nathan Stahl, Branson Rogers, Kendra Stahl, Lyndsey Banks, Alyssa Rogers, Rebekah Rogers and Caleb Rogers.

He was preceded in death by a brother, David Rogers, who died in 1987.

Services will be at 11 a. m. Saturday at the First Church of the Nazarene with the Rev. Dr. Philip Rogers, the Rev. Bruce Banks and the Rev. Kevin Sneed officiating. Burial will be in Sweet Cemetery.

Calling will be from 3-8 p.m. Friday at Hite Funeral Home and one hour before services Saturday at the church.

Memorials are to First Church of the Nazarene or the Gideons International.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Brice Craft** were held Saturday at 10 a.m. at Hite Funeral Home with the Rev. Charles Mosley officiating.

Burial was in Christian Union Cemetery, Garrett.

Pallbearers were Matthew Craft, Mark Gillingham, Chad Teders, Brian Mapes, Steve Terry and Adam Luttman.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Carl Hicks** were held Thursday at 11 a.m. at True Church of God in Jesus Name with the Rev. Sonny Stanley and the Rev. Worley Gibson officiating.

Burial was in Orange Cemetery, Rome City.

Pallbearers were Richard Hicks, Jamey Hicks, James Scott, Roger Barton, Eugene Barton and James Bryan.

Hite Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Amelia Raber

MILLERSBURG — Amelia Raber, 95, died Tuesday, Aug. 12, 2003, at the home of her daughter Elizabeth Yoder.

Mrs. Raber was a homemaker and seamstress and member of the Old Order Amish Church.

She was born Aug. 31, 1907, in LaGrange County to Joseph and Amanda (Sunthimer) Yoder. On April 12, 1934, she married Levi J. Raber in LaGrange County. He died Jan. 1, 1980.

Surviving are four daughters and sons-in-law, Ada and Samuel Bontrager of Middlebury, Elizabeth and Samuel Yoder of Shipshewana, Katie and Harry Miller of Millersburg and Amanda and Wilbur Yoder of LaGrange; a son and daughter-in-law, Joseph and Martha Raber of Shipshewana; a brother, Edward Yoder of Topeka; 48 grandchildren; and 156 great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by two sons, Glenn and Lloyd; three great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandson; four sisters, Mary Ropp, Lizzie Yoder, Rachel Miller and Amanda Miller; two brothers, Joe Yoder and Fred Yoder; and four stepbrothers, Harvey, David, Dannie and Willie Fry.

Services will be at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the Harry W. Miller residence, 10135 W. C.R. 600S, Millersburg, with Bishop Freeman Eash and the Home Ministers officiating. Burial will be in Bontrager Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling will be after 1 p.m. Thursday and all day Friday at the Miller residence.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 13 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

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James Funch

FORT WAYNE — James H. Funch, 79, died at 5:45 a.m. Friday Aug. 8, 2003, at his home.

He had worked in the heat treat department at Dana Corp. and retired from there in 1989 after 43 years of service. He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

Mr. Funch was a member of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Elks, Knights of Columbus, No. 451 and American Legion Post 178.

Surviving are his wife, Betty L.; a son, Bernard Ross Funch of Charlotte, N.C.; three daughters, Catherine Ann Hause and Alice Marie Schuelke, both of Fort Wayne, and Laura Lee Noble of Kendallville; and 10 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death a sister and a brother.

Services will be at 2 p.m. today at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Entombment will be at Catholic Cemetery.

Calling is one hour before services.

Memorials are to the church or Parkview Hospice.

Tom Mungovan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Jane Canfield

FORT WAYNE — Jane Mari Canfield, 52, died Monday, Aug. 11, 2003, at University Park Nursing Center.

She worked in the health care field and had been a nursing student at Ivy Tech College.

She was born Nov. 11, 1950, in Fort Wayne and was a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

Surviving are her parents, Norma and Harold Fischer of Fort Wayne; a daughter and son-in-law, April and Richard Michaels of Indianapolis; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Nick Lyons of Fischers and Michael and Sue Richards of Fort Wayne; two brothers and a sister-in-law, Don Canfield of Fort Wayne and Jon and Vicki Canfield of Rome City; a sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and David Nichter of Auburn; two grandchildren; and a cousin, Mike Canfield of Fort Wayne.

She was preceded in death by her father, Robert Canfield.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home. Burial will be in Concordia Cemetery Gardens.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to Turnstone Center for Disabled Children and Adults.

Richard Overmyer

FORT WAYNE — Richard Neil Overmyer, 73, formerly of Fort Wayne and now of Saucier, Miss., died July 30, 2003.

He was a partner in the Seat Cover Center in Fort Wayne for 36 years and a member of Our Lady of Good Hope in Fort Wayne.

Mr. Overmyer was a graduate of Central Catholic High School and received a bachelor's degree from Georgia Tech. He was a Korean War veteran and member of the VFW. He was a docent for the Museum of George Ohr O'Keefe and tutored children in Mississippi.

He was born Sept. 24, 1928, in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife, Theresa; nine children; 17 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a sister, Gaynetta Everson of Rome City.

He was preceded in death by two great-grandchildren.

No services will be held.

Bobby Webb

KENDALLVILLE — Bobby W. Webb, 63, died Monday, Aug. 11, 2003, at the home of his sister in Kendallville.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and had been a foundry worker.

Mr. Webb was born June 26, 1940, in Middlesboro, Ky., to Clayton and Rosa (Cobb) Webb.

Surviving are three sisters, Betty Omspaugh of El Paso, Texas, Sylvia Couarm of Kendallville, and Brenda Goings of Kokomo; a half sister, Bertha Lesley of Fort Wayne; and a brother, John Webb of Monroe, Mich.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the V.A. National Cemetery in Marion.

Hite Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be e-mailed to www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Loma Tribble

GOSHEN — Loma K. Tribble, 74, died Monday, Aug. 11, 2003, at the home of her special friend, Paul Carnar.

She had lived most of her life in the Shipshewana area and had worked as a waitress in several Shipshewana restaurants and at several area factories.

She was born Feb. 7, 1929, in Frankford, Pa. She and Richard E. Tribble Sr. were married June 1, 1947. He died Nov. 29, 1992.

Mrs. Tribble

Surviving are four sons and three daughters-in-law, Richard and Marjana Tribble Jr. of Sturgis, Mich., Michael and Patti Tribble of Orland, Edward and Barbara Tribble of Middlebury, and Ronald Tribble of Shipshewana; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Janet Worhalic of Boca Raton, Fla., and Faye and Wendell Shaffer of Elkhart; 14 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were a brother, Andrew Frank Barrick; a sister, Fern Gould; and her mother, Pearl (Bowers) Gayman.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury. Burial will be in Keightley Cemetery, Shipshewana.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Jayden Mishler

SHIPSHEWANA — Jayden Lynn Mishler died Tuesday, Aug. 12, 2003, at Riley Childrens Hospital in Indianapolis 16 hours after he was born that day in Topeka.

Surviving are his parents, John Ray and Marlene Kay (Yoder) Mishler of Shipshewana; two brothers, Eugene Alvin Mishler and Michael Jon Mishler, both at home; grandparents, Alvin and Fannie Mishler of LaGrange, and Linda Yoder of Shipshewana; and great-grandparents, Anna Schrock of Middlebury, Ben and Lizzie Herschberger of Topeka and Mary Ann Yoder of LaGrange.

He was preceded in death by a grandfather, Orval Yoder; an aunt, Rosemary Mishler; and an uncle, Mathew Yoder.

Family graveside services will be today at Lehman Cemetery, Shipshewana, with Bishop Ervin Dean Bontrager of the Old Order Amish Church officiating.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Walter Long

LIGONIER — Walter J. Long, 76, of Sarasota, Fla., died Saturday, Aug. 9, 2003.

A former resident of Ligonier, he had served in the U.S. Army and the Army Reserves. He was employed with United Technology in Ligonier and the Indiana State Highway Department at Goshen.

Mr. Long was a lifetime member of American Legion Post 223 in Syracuse.

He was born June 16, 1927, in Ligonier to Alva and Mattie (Hooley) Long. He and his wife, Thelma, were married March 28, 1953. She survives.

Also surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, John and Beth Long of Sarasota; two granddaughters, Katrina Salerno of Port Charlotte, Fla., and Lou Ann Long of Sarasota; and two great-granddaughters.

Graveside services with full military honors will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at Oak Park Cemetery in Ligonier with Pastor Michael Heinbaugh officiating.

Memorials are to American Legion Post 223.

Orr Funeral Home in Ligonier is in charge of arrangements.

ALBION NEW ERA
AUGUST 13, 2003
ALBION, IN

Tyler Lee Freeman

GARRETT – Tyler Lee Freeman, infant, died Thursday, August 7, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital, Auburn.

Survivors include his parents, Jessica Corbin and Jason Freeman, both of Garrett; grandparents, Julie Corbin and Terry and Vonda Freeman, all of Garrett, and Don Corbin of Albion; great-grandparents, Bernard and Joan Pence, Bertha Payton, Robert Freeman and Peggy McGlothlin, all of Garrett, and Connie DeVeny of Huntertown; two cousins, Kayla and Bryant Freeman, both of Garrett; aunts and uncles, Patty Provines and Jeff Provines of Auburn, and Chasity Freeman and Joe Freeman of Garrett.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Lily Rose Corbin, and a great-grandfather, Robert Payton.

Graveside services were held Monday, August 11, 2003, at Calvary Cemetery, Garrett.

Memorials are to the family.

Lorah Campbell

FORT WAYNE – Lorah R. Campbell, 71, died Wednesday, August 6, 2003, at her home.

She had been a manager at many hotel chains for the past 27 years. She was a member of the Women of the Moose and Eagles Auxiliary in New Haven.

Mrs. Campbell was a member of Third Street Church of God.

Surviving are her husband, Harry Leo Campbell of Fort Wayne; a son, Robert Chapman of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Madaline Smithhart of Leo and Sue Ferris of Avilla; a brother, Lester Hettinger of Logansport; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Services were held Monday, August 11, 2003, at D.O. McComb & Sons Maplewood Park Funeral Home. Burial was in Star City West Cemetery at Star City.

Memorials are to the family.

David Carter

ALBION – David E. Carter, 82, of Albion, died Saturday, August 9, 2003, in Lutheran Hospital of Fort Wayne.

He was a former member of Merriam Christian Chapel and enjoyed fishing, woodworking and his family.

He was born on October 27, 1920, to Otis D. and Chloa Mae (Connell) Carter.

He married Phyllis K. Bonar on February 19, 1943, in Columbia City. She survives.

Also surviving are a daughter, Debra and John Landa of Albion; two sons, Phillip Carter of Fort Wayne and Dennis Carter of Ligonier; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son, David Carter in 1950; one brother and four sisters.

Private graveside services were held Sunday, August 10, 2003.

Brice Craft

KENDALLVILLE – Brice C. Craft, 31, died Monday, August 4, 2003, at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a graduate of East Noble High School and a two-year graduate of Purdue University's hotel and restaurant management program.

Mr. Craft had attended Bethel Christian Baptist Church and had been employed at Flint & Walling.

He was born January 13, 1972, in Fort Wayne to Rick and Debra (Stouder) Craft.

Surviving are his father and stepmother, Rick and Shelley Craft of Avilla; his mother and stepfather, Debra and Milford Terry of Kendallville; a brother, Matthew Craft of Norfolk, VA; his maternal grandparents, Keith and Shirley Stouder of Kendallville; and his paternal grandparents, Gene and Linda Craft of Fort Wayne.

Services were held Saturday, August 9, 2003, at Hite Funeral Home. Burial was in Christian Union Cemetery in Garrett.

Memorials are to Ronald McDonald House or Riley Children's Hospital.

Paul Lock

COLUMBIA CITY – Paul Raymond Lock, age 82, of 2269 W 350 S, Columbia City, died during his sleep early Monday, August 11, 2003, at his residence.

He was born on June 18, 1921, in Churubusco to James L. and Goldie P. (Maggart) Lock.

He married Marjorie I. Breisch on August 11, 1954, at Grace Lutheran Church by Pastor Graham L. Kleespie in Columbia City. She survives. Mr. Lock was reared in Churubusco and lived there until his marriage when he and his wife moved to their present home. He attended Churubusco High School. He was a member of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Columbia City. In 1980, he retired from his position as the janitorial department group leader for the Dana Corporation in Fort Wayne.

He is survived by his wife, Marjorie I. Lock of Columbia City; three sons, Craig (Kathy) Lock of Martinsville, IN, James (Cindy) Lock of Columbia City, Daniel (Lisa) Lock of Wolf Lake; one daughter, Paula (Loren) Kauffman of Columbia City; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; two sisters, Ada VanDeman and Helen Groves, both of Columbia City; two brothers, Eugene Lock of Albion and Arthur Lock of Churubusco.

He is preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Norbert Lock, one infant sister, Velma, and two grandchildren, Scott and Corina.

Funeral Services will be held at DeMoney-Grimes Countryside Park Funeral Home in Columbia City on Thursday, August 14, 2003, at 1:00 p.m. with Pastor David Salyer from Victory Christian Fellowship Church officiating. Burial will be at Nolt Cemetery, Columbia City.

Memorial bequests may be made in his memory to Victory Christian Church Food Pantry.

ALBION NEW ERA
AUGUST 13, 2003
ALBION, IN

Walter Long

SARASOTA, FL – Walter J. Long, age 76, of Sarasota, FL and formerly of Ligonier, passed away August 9, 2003.

He was born June 16, 1927, in Ligonier.

He married Thelma Long on March 28, 1953. She survives.

He served in the U.S. Army and the Army Reserves.

He was employed with United Technology in Ligonier and also the Indiana State Highway Department at Goshen.

He was a lifetime member of American Legion Post #223 in Syracuse, IN.

Surviving are his wife, Thelma Long of Sarasota, FL; one son and daughter-in-law, John and Beth Long of Sarasota; two granddaughters, Katrina Salerno of Fort Charlotte, FL and Lou Ann Long of Sarasota; and two great-granddaughters, Kaley and Kristina.

Grave side services will be held Saturday, August 16, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in Oak Park Cemetery of Ligonier with full military honors.

For those who wish, memorial contributions can be made to American Legion Post #223.

Local arrangements were handled by Orr Funeral Home of Ligonier.

Nora Nix

FORT WAYNE – Nora Ann (Troutner) Nix, 47, died Wednesday, August 6, 2003, at her home.

Mrs. Mix was vice president at Wells Fargo Bank for 29 years and had served on the boards of many organizations. She enjoyed reading and spending time with her family.

She was born in Fort Wayne and graduated from South Side High School in 1974. She attended International Business College and was a member of Most Precious Blood Catholic Church.

Surviving are her husband, Peter A. Nix of Fort Wayne; a daughter, Ashley M., at home; two sons, Alexander P. and Elliott P., both at home; her father, Thomas A. Troutner of Fort Wayne; her mother, Mary K. Troutner of Fort Wayne; a stepdaughter, Amy Reinking, and stepgrandchild, Sumaiya, both of Fort Wayne; five brothers, Gregory, M. Scott, and Steven, all of Fort Wayne; Jeffrey of San Rafael, CA, and D. Mark of Albion; her grandmother, M. Maxine Evans of Fort Wayne; and her mother-in-law, Julia J. Konkle of Fort Wayne.

Services were held Friday, August 8, 2003, at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church. Burial was in Catholic Cemetery.

Memorials are to the Precious Blood Sunday school class.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 14 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Roger Boggs

COLUMBIA CITY — Roger D. Boggs, 69, died Tuesday, Aug. 12, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. He had been in failing health the past two months.

Mr. Boggs

Mr. Boggs had worked at Farmer's Elevator, Phelps Dodge Magnet Wire and had owned the Friendly Inn in Albion from 1978 to 1981. He retired from Dana P.T.G. in Columbia City in 1999.

He had served in the Indiana National Guard for seven years and was a member of the U.A.W.

Mr. Boggs was born June 9, 1934, in Etna to J. Heber and Edith (Fisher) Boggs. On May 28, 1953, he married Shirley A. Wolfe. She survives.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Rebecca Brown of Pierceton and Jamesanna and Jeff Webb of Auburn; a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Nancy Boggs of Albion; three brothers, Stanley Boggs of Oak Grove, La., and Otto Boggs and C.L. Boggs, both of Columbia City; a sister, Amanda Brink of Elk Grove, Mich.; five grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; six great-grandchildren; five stepgreat-grandchildren.

Services will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Smith and Sons Funeral Home with Pastor Orlo Hibbs officiating. Burial will be at a later date.

Calling will be from 2-5 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Clyde Brown

AUBURN — Clyde Brown, 78, died Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was a job setter for Dana Corp. in Auburn, retiring in 1980 with 38 years of service. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army.

Mr. Brown was a member of the Auburn Moose Lodge, the Waterloo Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion post at Auburn and the Butler Eagles.

He was born Dec. 28, 1924, in DeKalb County to Elsworth Brown and Stella LaRowe.

He married Patricia Moran on April 16, 1954, and she survives.

Also surviving are two sons, Jeff Brown of Auburn and Dennis Brown of Ashley; a daughter, Karen Thacker of Kendallville; three brothers, Edwin Brown and Clarence Brown, both of Auburn, and Richard Brown of Garrett; four sisters, Luella Aschelman and Geraldine Clark, both of Auburn, and Norma Dickinson and Sue Bock, both of Garrett; six grandchildren, Nicole and Dana Hedrick, Casey and Aaron Brown, Kristy Helmkamp and Blaine Thacker; and three great-grandchildren, Faith Hedrick, Kaya Helmkamp and Kaiden Thacker.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Howard Brown.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with the Rev. Ralph Diehl officiating.

Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery of Auburn. A graveside service will be conducted by the American Legion post of Auburn.

Calling is Friday from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to New Hope Christian Center of Waterloo.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Michael Hamilton

AVILLA — Michael C. Hamilton, 53, died Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2003, at his home.

Arrangements are pending at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla.

Jacquelyn Aeby

HOWE — Jacquelyn A. Aeby died Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2003, at her home.

Arrangements are pending at Carney-Frost Funeral Home, Howe.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 15 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

James Wright

WOLCOTTVILLE — James Eugene Wright, 73, died at 8 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, 2003, at his home. He had been ill one month.

Mr. Wright had been a postal clerk at the Fort Wayne Post Office for over 30 years, retiring in 1984. He was a member of LaGrange American Legion Post 215, Pheasants Forever and the Pretty Lake Conservation Club.

Mr. Wright

He was a Navy veteran of the Korean War.

Mr. Wright had lived in the Wolcottville area since 1984.

He was born Nov. 7, 1929, in Fort Wayne to Eugene G. and Geneva (Murphy) Wright. On Nov. 17, 1952, in Wisconsin he married Shirley Cathers. She survives in Wolcottville.

Also surviving are two daughters, Diane Wright of Fort Wayne and Kathleen Dennison of Tauranga, New Zeland; a son and daughter-in-law, Eugene and Theresa Wright of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Mary Marjorie Keck of Van Wert, Ohio, and Eugenia Ann Folk of Fort Wayne; and five grandchildren, Hannah, Micah, Leah and Joshuah Dennison and Nicholas Wright.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens in Fort Wayne.

Calling will be from 4-8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

Eugene Rilling

AUBURN — Eugene G. Rilling, 55, died Tuesday, Aug. 12, 2003, at 12:45 p.m. at Hospice Home of Northern Indiana, Fort Wayne.

Mr. Rilling worked for Irmscher Construction as a project manager/architect. He was a member of the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Club and St. Mark's Lutheran Church of Butler. He was a graduate of Pratt Institute of Brooklyn, N.Y.

He was born Nov. 26, 1947, in Brooklyn, N.Y., to Eugene and Maria (Dietz) Rilling.

He is survived by a son, Christopher Rilling of Vorhees, N.J., three daughters, Jennifer Rilling of Huntington Beach, Calif., Kathi Rilling of Glendale, N.Y., and Jahna Roberts of Auburn; a sister, Maria Kovacs of Livermore, Maine; two grandchildren, Ashton and Kyle; his stepparents, Oscar and Carol Coe of Rome City; a special friend Penny Scherrer; seven stepbrothers; and three stepsisters.

Services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. in St. Mark's Lutheran Church of Butler, with Pastor Darrol Heggen officiating.

Calling is after 1 p.m. Saturday at the church.

Memorials are to St. Mark's Lutheran Church of Butler.

H.E. Johnson & Son Funeral Home of Butler is in charge of arrangements.

Jacquelyn Aeby

HOWE — Jacquelyn A. Aeby, 86, died at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2003, at her home.

She had worked as an administrative assistant for the Boy Scouts of America in Chicago. She was also an author and had more than 50 books published under various pen names.

Miss Aeby graduated in 1940 from the University of Chicago and was very active in the GFWC Indiana Federation of Women's Clubs.

She was born May 31, 1917, in South Bend to Ross and Gladys (Kline) Aeby.

Surviving are three nephews, Will Rose and Timothy Rose both of Valparaiso and Gregory Rose of Delaware, Ohio; a niece, Janine A. Rose of Rifle, Colo.; and eight great-nieces.

Preceding her in death were her parents and a sister, Charmian A. Rose.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Carney-Frost Funeral Home in Howe. Burial will be in Sidener Cemetery.

Calling will be from 1-4 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

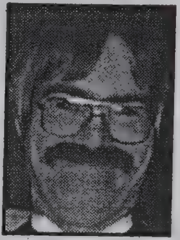
Memorials are to Lima Presbyterian Church or to the donor's choice.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 15 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Michael Hamilton

AVILLA — Michael C. "Dink" Hamilton, 53, died at 4:50 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Hamilton was a tool and die maker and had worked 12 years at XY Tool in LaOtto, 12 years at Berkey Machine in Brimfield and two years at Vector in LaOtto. He enjoyed working in his shop at his home, motorcycle racing, drag racing and bird watching.


Mr. Hamilton

He was a 1968 graduate of East Noble High School and had attended Manchester College. He was a veteran of the United States Air Force and a member of Avilla American Legion Post 240.

Mr. Hamilton had lived in the area since 1962 and was charter member of the former Avilla Jaycees.

He was born April 4, 1950, in Hayward, Calif., to Richard P. and Doris L. (Streeton) Hamilton. His mother survives in Kendallville and his father died Oct. 29, 1999.

Also surviving are his caregiver, Lisa Spaw of Avilla; three brothers and sisters-in-law, David and Mona Hamilton and Mark and Stacy Hamilton, all of Kendallville, and Bruce and Jill Hamilton of Auburn; and six nieces, Elizabeth, Jennifer, April, Lisa, Carmen, and Cathy Hamilton.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla with the Rev. David Wilson officiating. Burial with military graveside services by Avilla American Legion Post 240 will be at Lake View Cemetery in Kendallville.

Calling will be from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, 3300 E. Sunrise Drive, Tuscon, Ariz. 85718-3299.

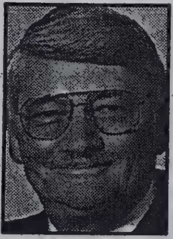
THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 16 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

The following obituary is being republished to correct errors in information provided to The News-Sun.

Roger D. Boggs

COLUMBIA CITY — Roger D. Boggs, 69, died Tuesday, Aug. 12, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. He had been in failing health the past two months.

He was born June 9, 1934, in Etna to J. Heber and Edith (Fisher) Boggs. On May 28, 1953, he married Shirley A. Wolfe. She survives.


Mr. Boggs

Mr. Boggs had worked at Farmer's Elevator, Phelps Dodge Magnet Wire and had owned the Friendly Inn in Albion from 1978 to 1981. He retired from Dana P.T.G. in Columbia City in 1999.

He had served in the Indiana National Guard for seven years and was a member of the United Auto Workers.

Also surviving are two daughters and a son-in-law, Rebecca Brown of Pierceton and Jamesanna and Jeff Webb of Auburn; a son and daughter-in-law, Roger and Nancy Boggs of Albion; three brothers, Stanley Boggs of Oak Grove, La., and Otto Boggs and C.L. Boggs, both of Columbia City; a sister, Amanda Brink of Elk Rapids, Mich.; five grandchildren; two stepgrandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and five stepgrandchildren.

Services were Friday at Smith and Sons Funeral Home, Columbia City. Burial will be at a later date.

Memorials are to the donor's choice.

Charles E. Farrington

LAGRANGE — Charles E Farrington, 67, of 2175 N. S.R 3, LaGrange, died at 10:39 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, 2003, at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

On Feb. 7, 1936, in Fort Wayne, he was born to Benjamin H. and Leora Farrington.

He had been a truck driver and served in the U.S. Army for 13 years.

Surviving are four sons, Charles E. Farrington II and Philip Farrington, both of Mongo, Benjamin Farrington of Fort Wayne, and Brian Farrington of Fort Myers, Fla., and five grandchildren.

A memorial service will be at 5 p.m. Thursday at Carney-Frost Funeral Home, LaGrange.

There is no visitation.

Services Held

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **Margaret Blech** were held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. John Lutheran Church with Rev. Paul Griebel officiating. Burail was in Lake View Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Patruck Carnahan, Dane Carnahan, Jeff White, Steven Connell, Carlos Musser and Mark Bater.

Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, was in charge of arrangements.

The following obituary is being republished to correct errors in information provided to The News-Sun.

James Wright

WOLCOTTVILLE — James Eugene Wright, 73, died at 8 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, 2003, at his home. He had been ill one month.

Mr. Wright had been a postal clerk at the Fort Wayne Post Office for over 30 years, retiring in 1984. He was a member of LaGrange American Legion Post 215, Pheasants Forever and the Pretty Lake Conservation Club.

He was a Navy veteran of the Korean War.

Mr. Wright had lived in the Wolcottville area since 1984.

He was born Nov. 7, 1929, in Fort Wayne to Eugene G. and Geneva (Murphy) Wright. On Nov. 17, 1952, in Wisconsin he married Shirley Cathers. She survives in Wolcottville.

Mr. Wright

Also surviving are two daughters, Diane Wright of Fort Wayne and Kathleen Dennison of Tauranga, New Zeland; a son and daughter-in-law, Eugene and Theresa Wright of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Mary Marjorie Keck of Van Wert, Ohio, and Eugenia Ann Folk of Fort Wayne; and five grandchildren, Hannah, Micah, Leah and Joshuah Dennison and Nicholas Wright.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home in Kendallville. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens in Fort Wayne.

Calling will be from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.

THE NEWS SUN

AUGUST 17 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Faith and love for family directed Robert Rogers' life

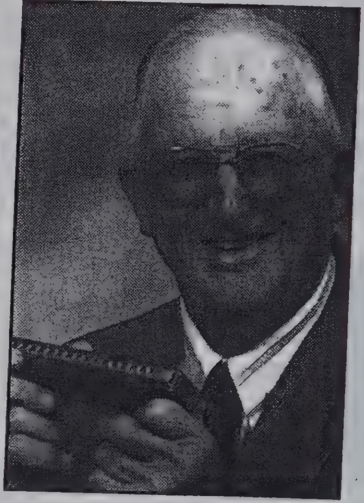


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Robert Rogers, 80, of Kendallville is remembered as a loving, giving individual who had an insatiable zest for life. He died Monday, Aug. 11, 2003.

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — Robert Rogers was a classic man who possessed a plethora of talents.

And it was those talents, son Phil said, that largely defined who his father was.

"Though Dad might not be considered a success by much of our culture's standards, he was a marvelous success in life," Phil said.

Robert Charles Rogers, 80, died Monday, Aug. 11, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital. He was a lifetime area farmer and still active in his profession. He enjoyed fishing and was known by the nickname "Bluegill Bob."

Phil remembered his father as a loving, giving individual who had an insatiable zest for life.

"He loved, he played, he gave, and just plain excelled in the things that end up really mattering," he said. "Till the day he died, he invested himself in relationships with people he enjoyed."

Phil was with his father when he died. Phil and his family were on their way to Michigan for a vacation, and stopped at his parents' home for lunch.

When Phil arrived, he found his father slumped over on the porch swing, where he had been waiting for his son and his family to arrive. Phil called out to his father, who then fell to the floor. Mr. Rogers was "totally unresponsive and turning blue," Phil said.

A former emergency medical technician, Phil knew how to administer CPR to his father, which he did until paramedics arrived, but Phil said he knew in his heart his father was already gone.

"I feel very blessed that God allowed me to be present at the very moment my dad and mom needed me most," he said. "Though I cannot say for sure, I feel confident that Dad was holding on until he knew I had arrived. As soon as he heard my voice, he then knew I was there and could let go."

Phil said he was relieved that his mother was not home alone when his father collapsed. "God has been so good to me and my family," he said.

Although the Rogers family was not wealthy, Phil said his father gave of his heart, and that was what was important.

"Dad was never able to give us a lot financially, though he was not really poor," he said. "Yet what he gave us was so much more than that. I am so proud of my dad and mom, because in the thngs that really are important, they have shown us the way."

He was also well known for playing the harmonica and enjoyed entertaining at nursing homes, clubs and churches. He enjoyed teaching others to play the harmonica.

Mr. Rogers was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene in Kendallville, where he taught Sunday school and served on the church board for 48 years. He was also a member of the Gideons International. His faith, Phil said, was an immeasurably integral part of his father's life.

"It was that faith, never oppressively shared, but consistently lived, that has made a tremendous impact on his family and many people who have known him."

Phil said if there is anything he would like people to know about his dad, it was that he was a giving man.

"He shared everything ... his harmonica playing, his fish, his garden produce, his time, his life," he said.

Mr. Rogers and his wife, Annabel, had just celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on Aug. 1. In addition to Phil, they had another son, Wesley, and two daughters, Barbara Stahl and Beth Banks, and were the grandparents of nine.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 17 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Irene Benanti

HUDSON — Irene G. Benanti, 86, died at 3:10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

Mrs. Benanti

Mrs. Benanti worked for five years as a cost estimator at General Electric during World War II and was involved with foster care for over 20 years in Fort Wayne and Hudson. She was a member of the Eagles R.E.A.E., First Families of Ohio, Ohio Genealogical Society, Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate, St. Jude League, Mothers of World War II, Stroh Homemakers, St. Mary's Alter and Rosary Sodality and St. Mary's of the Angels Catholic Church in Hudson. She was also a secular Franciscan, a leader of 4-H and Brownies and a life member of C.B.I. and D.A.V. auxiliary Elmer Pond.

She was born Jan. 18, 1917, in Cheyenne, Wyo., to John and Edna Abigail (Piatt) Carpenter. She married Joseph C. Benanti on July 20, 1940. He preceded her in death on July 24, 1978.

Also preceding her in death were a son, Joseph C. Benanti III; a daughter, Sylvia Mae Benanti; and a brother, Alden B. Carpenter.

She is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Lyngail and John Schwarz of rural Hudson; five grandchildren, Mary Schwarz, Sarah Culler, John Schwarz Jr., David Schwarz and Shawn Bartels; and three great-grandchildren, Sarah Bartels, Abigail Bartels and Thomas Hunt.

Services will be 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Mary of the Angels Catholic Church in Hudson. Father Phil Ley will officiate. Burial will be at a graveside service at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Greenlawn Memorial Park, Fort Wayne.

Calling will be 5 to 8 p.m. Monday at Johnson Funeral Home in Hudson.

Memorials are to Sacred Heart Home in Avilla. Condolences may be sent to johnson@kuntrynet.com.

Judith Lint

AUBURN — Judith A. Lint, 62, died Friday, Aug. 15, 2003, at DeKalb Memorial Hospital in Auburn.

Mrs. Lint was a homemaker and worked several years at Auburn Presbyterian Day Care. She was born Nov. 21, 1940, in Auburn to George Boren Jr. and Geraldine (Brown) Clark. She married Richard Lint on Aug. 5, 1961, in Auburn. He survives.

Also surviving are her mother; three daughters and a son-in-law, Lisa Jones and Robin Martin, both of Auburn, and Tara and Paul Sare of Wabash; four brothers, Jerry Boren of Naples, Fla., Robert Kester of Carmel and Jack Clark and Danny Boren, both of Auburn; two sisters, Carolyn Schlup of Fort Wayne and Clara Haiflich of Auburn; and six grandchildren, Rachael Martin, Christopher Jones, Colin Jones, Seth Sare, Katelin Sare and Taylor Sare.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, who died in infancy.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Feller Funeral Home in Waterloo. The Rev. Kurt Stout will officiate. Burial will be at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Calling will be 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to DeKalb Memorial Hospital.

Edward Edwards

ALBION — Edward L. Edwards, 66, was pronounced dead on arrival at Adams County Memorial Hospital in Decatur at 4:01 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003.

Mr. Edwards

Mr. Edwards was employed for 40 years with the Indiana Department of Transportation and retired earlier this year as a landscaping supervisor. He was veteran of the U.S. Army and a member of Merriam Christian Chapel, who enjoyed fishing, hunting and playing horseshoes.

He was born on May 23, 1937, in Noble County to Fed and Elsie (Brackney) Edwards. He graduated from Albion High School in 1956 and attended Tri-State University. He married Mary Lois Bair on Sept. 17, 1960, in Massachusetts. The couple lived all their married life in Noble Township. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Craig Edwards of Wolcottville, and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Philip Edwards, and a sister, Beth Young.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Merriam Christian Chapel. Pastors Terry L. Zolman and Steve Pulley will officiate. Burial will be in the Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

Calling will be one hour prior to services Tuesday and 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Sheets & Childs Funeral Home in Churubusco.

Memorials are to Merriam Christian Chapel building fund. Condolences may be sent to sympathy@sheetsfuneralhome.com.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 17 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Grandmother made many memories for her family

BY BILL GISEL
billg@kpcnews.net

AUBURN — Any time 2-year-old Abigail Maskill was asked to pray, she always said: "Thank you, God, for Grandma Woodcock."

The subject of her prayer, Alma L. Woodcock, 86, died Aug. 7, 2003, at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

"That is what this eulogy is, a thank you to God for giving us a wonderful, loving person like Grandma," Rhonda Maskill wrote about Mrs. Woodcock.

"She lived for her family ... eight children, 26 grandchildren and 50 great-grandchildren," Maskill said. "We were her pride and joy."

In her last days, Mrs. Woodcock's family gathered at her bedside.

"She knew we were there for her as she began to slip away," Maskill said. "Staci (grandaughter Staci Douglas) said it best when she told grandma, 'Look at all the love you have brought into this world,'" Maskill recalled.

Mrs. Woodcock was the oldest of four children, and her mother died when she was 2 1/2 years old, Maskill said.

"She grew up in the German part of Garrett and spoke only German until she was 5, and she was raised a strict Lutheran, which instilled a faith in her that she carried all through life.

"Childhood was not always easy for her because of her stubbornness and feisty attitude — the same traits that many of us have and are being passed to our children," Maskill noted.

Maskill said her grandmother loved to babysit.

"She was always there when you needed her," she said. She also babysat for a number of Auburn families.

"She loved having kids around, especially babies," Maskill said. Tristan, a great-grandson, weighed 15 ounces at birth, and she refered to him as her "ounce baby," said one of Mrs. Woodcock's daughters.

Maskill said all the grandchildren have fond memories. Dave Howe remembers his grandmother's dog, Tuffer; Erik Kapp recalled sticking his tongue out at his grandmother, who chased him up the stairs for a spanking; others remember special foods she prepared, such as cinnamon toast, Klondike bars served in a bowl, potato soup and sweetened ice tea.

"Then there was the candy. She always had some peppermints, orange slices and a pink wintergreen mint that I called 'Pepto-Bismol' grandma candy," Maskill said.

Other grandkids remember the toys: "Grandma kept a supply of marbles, a car we could steer and push with our feet, and a drawer full of coloring books and crayons," Maskill said.

Other memories are of her watching favorite TV shows, such as "The Young and the Restless," "Falcon Crest" and "Dallas."

"Often when we visited, she had a Cubs game playing," Maskill said.

"Now, God has called Grandma home ... she is finally living the life she deserves," Maskill said. "We say, 'Thank you, God, for Grandma Woodcock' and for sharing her with us," she said.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 17 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Anna Surfus

AUBURN — Anna M. Surfus, 102, died Thursday, Aug. 14, 2003, at Parkview Noble Hospital in Kendallville.

She taught in Garrett-Keyser-Butler schools and other DeKalb County schools for 40 years, retiring in 1976.

Mrs. Surfus

She was a member of the Garrett Presbyterian Church. She also attended the Maple Grove United Methodist Church near Corunna and taught Sunday School there for many years. She was a member of the DeKalb County Teachers Association.

Mrs. Surfus was born May 19, 1901, in Garrett to Gottlieb and Marie (Schmidt) Maurer.

She graduated from Garrett High School in 1920 and graduated from Tri-State College in 1922 with a teacher's certificate. She received her bachelor of arts degree from the University of St. Francis in 1958.

She married John B. Surfus in 1923. He died in 1958.

She is survived by a son, John Surfus of Fort Myers Beach, Fla., two daughters, Marie Surfus Wappes of Fort Myers, Fla., and Joan Hicks of Fort Wayne; a daughter-in-law, Violet Surfus of Auburn; five grandchildren, Sheryl Stallman, Tim Wappes, Julie Wappes Lynch, Dr. B. Matthew Hicks and Jonathan Hicks; nine great-grandchildren, four stepgrandchildren and five stepgreat-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Oliver and Herbert Maurer, a sister, Gertrude Swander, a son, Franklin Surfus, and a stepson, Robert Surfus.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, with the Rev. Douglas Barber officiating. Burial will be in the Cedar Creek Chapel Cemetery in rural Garrett.

Calling will be today from 2-6 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the DeKalb County Humane Shelter.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 18 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Ronald Wilkinson

SOUTH WHITLEY — Ronald J. Wilkinson, 78, of South Whitley, died at 9:15 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003, at the VA Medical Center, Indianapolis. He was admitted Thursday, and had been in failing health for the past few years.

Mr. Wilkinson

Born on Dec. 9, 1924, in Fort Wayne, he was a son of Ronald B. and Clara (Burkhardt) Wilkinson. In 1968 he married Mary A. (Stotlar) Goodwin. She survives.

He spent his formative years in Fort Wayne where he was educated.

Mr. Wilkinson and his wife lived in Bluffton until 1971 when they moved to South Whitley.

He was a truck driver for many years, and retired from Howard Sober's Trucking.

He was a member of V.F.W. Post 2689 in Huntington, the American Legion and served as commander of the Columbia City V.F.W. Post 5582 from 1992 to 1993.

Surviving in addition to his wife are three sons and two daughters-in-law, Ronald "Skip" Wilkinson of Orland, Jim L. and Gillian Wilkinson of Albion, and Dale E. and Phyllis Wilkinson of Fort Wayne; three stepsons and a stepdaughter-in-law, Donald R. Goodwin, Ronald K. Goodwin and John W. and Cindy Goodwin, all of Bluffton; five brothers, Paul Wilkinson of Syracuse, Dennis Wilkinson of Decatur, Dick Wilkinson of Kendallville, and Jim Wilkinson and Don Wilkinson, both of Florida; a sister, Martha Willoughby of New Haven; 14 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Kenny, Bob and Tom Wilkinson, and a sister, Doris Holmes.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Smith and Sons Miller Chapel, South Whitley, with the Rev. John Hofer officiating. Burial will be in Covington Memorial Gardens, Fort Wayne. Huntington V.F.W. Post 2689 will present military honors at the cemetery.

Calling is from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

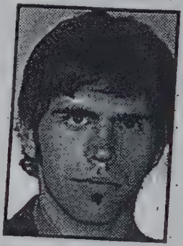
Memorials are to the Humane Society of Whitley County.

Andrew Mauk

FREMONT — Andrew "Andy" James Mauk, 20, died Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003, in Carroll County as a result of an automobile accident.

Mr. Mauk was born March 26, 1983, in Angola, to Greg and Dr. Susan J. (Halt) Mauk, who both survive in Fremont.

He was a student at Purdue University, West Lafayette, where he was studying building construction management.


Mr. Mauk

He was a 2001 Fremont High School graduate. He was a member of the Fremont United Methodist Church, Sigma Pi Fraternity and the Purdue University Crew Rowing Club.

He was a recipient of the Max L. Mitchell Sportsmanship Award. He enjoyed football, wrestling and baseball. He enjoyed being with friends, being on the lake jet skiing and wake boarding.

Also surviving are a sister, Melissa Lynn Mauk of Fremont; maternal grandparents, Elmer and Joyce Halt of North Liberty; and paternal grandparents, Garford and Carol Mauk of Fredricksburg, Texas.

He was preceded in death by a grandmother, Maralee Mauk, and a sister.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Fremont United Methodist Church, 105 N. Tolford St., Fremont, with the Rev. Greg Rittenhouse officiating. Calling is from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at the church.

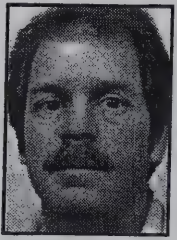
Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery, Fremont.

Memorials are to Fremont Athletics, c/o Fremont Community Schools P.O. Box 655, Fremont IN 46737, or Fremont United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 653, Fremont IN 46737.

Arrangements were by Beams Funeral Home, Fremont.

Frank 'Tom' Wood

BUTLER — Frank "Tom" Wood, 61, died Sunday, Aug. 17, 2003, at his home.



Mr. Wood

Mr. Wood worked at Airway Manufacturing in Auburn for seven years. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving from 1959 to 1963.

He was born April 20, 1942, in Davenport, Iowa, to Francis and Lillian (Hartley) Wood.

Surviving are his wife, Rosa; four sons and one daughter-in-law, Raymond Wood of Orland, Sam Wood and Joe Wood of Butler and Mike and Crystal Wood of Fremont; two daughters and sons-in-law, Maria and Mike Badger of Angola and Debbie and Scott Turner of Douglasville, Ga.; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Dwayne and Kay Wood of Fremont, Jim and Mary Wood of Howe and John and Barbara Wood of Jacksonville, Fla.; two sisters, Barbara Teeters of Fremont and Dorothy Bodine of Edon, Ohio; and 10 grandchildren, Dustin, Joshua, Austin, Destony and Shaly Wood, Jacob and Jace Badger, and Brad, Bruce and Brittney Turner.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday in Feller Funeral Home, 875 S. Wayne St., Waterloo. The Rev. Cecil Zimmerman and the Rev. Quinton Zimmerman will officiate. Burial will be in Waterloo Cemetery with graveside services by the Butler post of the American Legion.

Calling is Wednesday from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the American Cancer Society or Riley Hospital for Children.

Condolences may be sent to sympathy@fellerfuneralhome.net.

Lucia Yoder

GOSHEN — Lucia "Lucy" A. Yoder, 55, of Goshen, died at 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17, 2003, at Elkhart General Hospital, Elkhart. She had been ill with cancer for the past six months.

Mrs. Yoder

In Salzkotten, Germany, on Aug. 29, 1947, she was born to Alfredas and Luba (Swetlichnaja) Tubinas. She married Wilbur "Randy" Yoder in Sydney, Australia. He survives.

She grew up in Sydney, Australia where she lived from 1949 to 1972 before moving to the Goshen area.

Mrs. Yoder was a local Avon representative for 21 years and loved cooking and gardening.

Surviving in addition to her husband are three daughters and sons-in-law, Natalie and Donald Newton and Sandi and Robert Weldy, all of Elkhart, and Lisa and Jason Minnick of Goshen; a son, Jason Yoder of Elkhart; a sister and brother-in-law, Jenny B. and William Skinner of Redmond, Ore.; and a brother, Thomas Tubinas of Brisbane, Australia.

A son, Ryan Yoder, preceded her in death in 1985.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at First Mennonite Church, Middlebury, with the Rev. Justin Lamason of Nappanee Missionary Church officiating. Burial will be in Grace Lawn Cemetery, Middlebury.

Calling is 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. today at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury.

Memorials are to Elkhart General Hospital Hospice.

KENDALLVILLE — Services for **James Eugene Wright** were held at 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 18, 2003, at Berhalter-Hutchins Funeral Home with the Rev. Ken Weaver officiating. Burial was in Covington Memorial Gardens, Fort Wayne.

Military graveside services were conducted by the LaGrange American Legion Post 215.

Pallbearers were Dick Pearsall, William Handley, Robert Keck, Robert Anderson, Michael Selby and Victor Kowal.

KENDALLVILLE — Funeral services for **Robert Rogers** were held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003, at the First Church of the Nazarene, Kendallville, with the Revs. Dr. Philip Rogers, Bruce Banks and Kevin Sneed officiating. Burial was in Sweet Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Caleb, Branson, Mike and Wesley Rogers, and Nathan and Tim Stahl.

Honorary pallbearers were Jim Jacob, Bill Presley, Taylor Ladd, Wayne Diehm, Greg Owen, Dave Stout and Domingo Cruz.

Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, was in charge of arrangements.

AVILLA — Services for **Michael C. "Dink" Hamilton** were held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home, Avilla, with the Rev. David Wilson officiating. Burial was in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Graveside services were held by Avilla American Legion Post 240.

Pallbearers were Dan Fritz, Jack Yahne, Terry Kemerly, Mike Haines, Steve Sheets and Tim Huelsenbeck.

Honorary pallbearers were David, Bruce and Mark Hamilton, Marvin Snawder, James Vaughn, Gary Sochacki and Don Kumfer.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 19 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Billie Norris

NORTHPORT, Fla. — Billie W. Norris, 76, died Wednesday, July 16, 2003.

He retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1970 as a chief master sergeant, and then retired from International Harvester in 1986 when he was chief of plant protection.

Mr. Norris was a Catholic and a member of American Legion Post 160 in Roanoke.

On March 20, 1927, in Roanoke, he was born to William and Zelma (Bolinger) Norris.

Surviving are his wife, Marge Megles-Norris of Northport, Fla.; four sons and three daughters-in-law, Mark and Susan Norris of Kendallville, Russell Norris of Fort Wayne, Vincent and Maureen Norris of Louisville, Ky., and William and Vicki Norris of Columbus; two daughters and sons-in-law, Denise and Edward Heffner of Fort Wayne, and Lisa and Peter Taviano of Visalia, Calif.; two stepsons and stepdaughters-in-law, James and Janet Megles of Fort Wayne, and Edward and Tammy Megles of Olathe, Kan.; two stepdaughters and stepsons-in-law, Linda and David Bierbaum of Fort Wayne, and Laura and Ryland Taliaferro of Fort Wayne; two sisters, Wilma Simon and Donna Nix, both of Columbia City; nine grandchildren; four stepgrandchildren; and a great-grandson.

His first wife, Orphine Norris, a brother, Garl Norris, and a sister, Betty Rayls, preceded him in death.

A graveside memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery, Main Street, Roanoke.

Memorials are to Hospice of Southwest Florida, 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34238.

Robert Bunten

SHIPSHEWANA — Robert J. Bunten, 69, of Shipshewana, died at 3:45 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17, 2003, at his residence. He had been in declining health.

Mr. Bunten moved to the Shipshewana area in 1982 after retiring in 1981 from RCA, and then worked as an over-the-road truck driver from 1982 to 1995.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran, having served in the Korean War from 1951 to 1955. He loved spending time and taking care of his special dog companions Pat, Mike, Max, Toby and Buster, and loved to work on the farm, gardening and the outdoors.

In Kingston, N.Y., on Jan. 30, 1934, he was born to Frank and Sally (Tadyeski) Bunten. He married Carol Snyder in Nashville, Tenn., on April 1, 1968. She survives.

Surviving in addition to his wife are three daughters and two sons-in-law, Patty and Jeff Smith of Middletown, Barbara and Randy Markey of Marlton, N.J., and Terry Adamson of Haddonfield, N.J.; four sons and three daughters-in-law, Bobby F. Bunten of Sea Isle City, N.J., Steve and Paula Bunten of Berlin, N.J., and Brian and Debbie Bunten and Chris and Teresa Klein Bunten, all of Shipshewana; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Sally Ann and Joe Bockelman of Van Buren, and Dorothy Smith of Marion; and 14 grandchildren.

His parents, a brother, Frank Bunten, and two grandsons, Kyle and Dylan Bunten, preceded him in death.

Services will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury, with the Rev. Mel Shetler of Maple City Chapel officiating.

Calling will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Ilene Nelson

BRONSON, Mich. — Ilene Nelson, 85, of Bronson, Mich., died Sunday, Aug. 17, 2003, at Sturgis Hospital, Sturgis, Mich.

On April 1, 1918, in Ontario, Ind., she was born to Fred O. and Anna M. (Boyd) Parish. In LaGrange on Nov. 28, 1938, she married Floyd "Tony" Nelson. He preceded her in death on Nov. 23, 1977.

She had made her home in rural Bronson since 1942, and had attended the Ontario Congregational Church. She was a homemaker and enjoyed traveling, ice skating, swimming and the theater.

Surviving are a son, Jerry L. Nelson of Bronson; two daughters, JoAnn Nelson of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Carol Lundorff of Reno, Nev.; two sisters, Vivian Smith of Howe, and Donna Gene Henricks of Mongo; a grandson and his wife, Todd and Lisa Rumsey of Sturgis; a granddaughter and her husband, Erin and Chris Marshall of Kendallville; four great-grandchildren, Tyler Rumsey and Bayli, Jaydin and Lauryn Marshall; and several nieces and nephews.

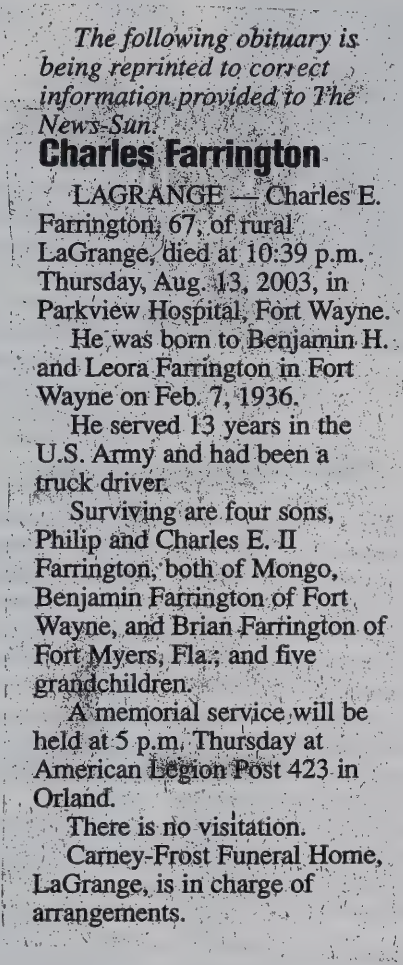
A sister, Evelyn Parish, and three brothers, Evan, Vernal and Frankie Parish, preceded her in death in addition to her parents and husband.

Services will be at noon Indiana time Wednesday at Schipper Funeral Home LTD, Colon, Mich., with the Rev. Sam Smith of West Chicago, Ill., officiating. Burial will follow at Ontario Cemetery at 1:30 p.m. Indiana time.

Calling is from 1 to 3 and 5 to 7 p.m. Indiana time today at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 19 2003 Kendallville, Indiana



The following obituary is being reprinted to correct information provided to The News-Sun.

Charles Farrington

LAGRANGE — Charles E. Farrington, 67, of rural LaGrange, died at 10:39 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 13, 2003, in Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

He was born to Benjamin H. and Leora Farrington in Fort Wayne on Feb. 7, 1936.

He served 13 years in the U.S. Army and had been a truck driver.

Surviving are four sons, Philip and Charles E. II Farrington, both of Mongo, Benjamin Farrington of Fort Wayne, and Brian Farrington of Fort Myers, Fla.; and five grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 5 p.m. Thursday at American Legion Post 423 in Orland.

There is no visitation.

Carney-Frost Funeral Home, LaGrange, is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

AUGUST 20 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

William Steiner

WABASH — William "Bill" Deane Steiner, 79, died Sunday, Aug. 17, 2003, at 7 a.m. at the home of his daughter, Dr. Shannon L. Arnett, in Butler.

Mr. Steiner was a public music teacher for 39 years and a member of the St. Matthews United Church of Christ in Wabash.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II, serving on the USS Mitchell. His memberships included Lions International (a 50-year member), American Federation of Musicians, National Education Association of Indiana, Retired Teachers, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Pi Kappa Alpha, Phi Delta Kappa International, American Choral Directors Association, National Band Association, MENC Music Educators, and the International Association for Jazz Education.

He was a graduate of Bowling Green State University and Indiana University and attended the Fred Waring Chorale Workshop in Pennsylvania.

His 39-year teaching career began in Wayne, Ohio, and included Westview High School, where he was the band director for two years. Crystal Gayle was a member of his singing group at Wabash High School.

He was born June 26, 1924, at Pandora, Ohio, to William H. and Idonaa (Trout) Steiner.

On Dec. 21, 1945, he married Grace Lewis, who survives.

Also surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Kendallville dentist Dr. Shannon L. Arnett and Jeffrey Arnett, both of Butler; three sons and a daughter-in-law, Kurt Steiner of Albany, Ga., Deane and Sue Steiner of Kokomo, and Shawn Steiner of Burbank, Calif.; one sister and brother-in-law, Betty and Robert Goldsberry of Elkhorn, Wisc.; six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

A music celebration will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday at St. Matthews United Church of Christ, with grandson Ted Troxell officiating.

Calling is from Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. at the church.

Memorials are to the music fund of St. Matthews United Church of Christ.

McDonald Funeral Home, LaFontaine Chapel, is in charge of arrangements.

Clyde Wainscott

SHIPSHEWANA — Clyde M. Wainscott, 70, of rural Shipshewana, died at 6:07 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2003, at St. Joseph Medical Center, South Bend. He had suffered from complications of cancer.

Arrangements are pending at Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, Middlebury.

Heather Burnell

ORLAND — Heather Gaye Burnell, 44, died Thursday, Aug. 14, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Burnell was born Sept. 13, 1958, in Toledo, Ohio, to Walter H. and Thelma L. (Stover) Johnson.

She married Kevin M. Burnell on Aug. 17, 2001. He survives.

She had been a self-employed sanitary technician for six years.

Also surviving are four sons, Shay, Mike and James Burnell, all of Longview, Wash., and John White III of Toledo; three daughters, Jennifer White of Toledo and Kelli and Alicia Fallis, both of Orland; a brother, James L. Johnson of Delta, Ohio; and two sisters, Robin L. Welch and Holly B. Johnson, both of Holland, Ohio.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Kenneth C. Johnson.

Memorial services will be at 4 p.m. Saturday at Orland Church of the Nazarene.

Memorials are to the Indiana Organ Procurement Organization.

ALBION NEW ERA

AUGUST 20 2003 ALBION, INDIANA

Michael Hamilton

AVILLA – Michael C. "Dink" Hamilton, 53, died Wednesday, August 13, 2003, at his home.

Mr. Hamilton was a tool and die maker and had worked 12 years at XY Tool in LaOtto, 12 years at Berkey Machine in Brimfield and two years at Vector in LaOtto. He enjoyed working in his shop at his home, motorcycle racing, drag racing and bird watching.

He was a 1968 graduate of East Noble High School and had attended Manchester College. He was a veteran of the United States Air Force and a member of Avilla American Legion Post 240.

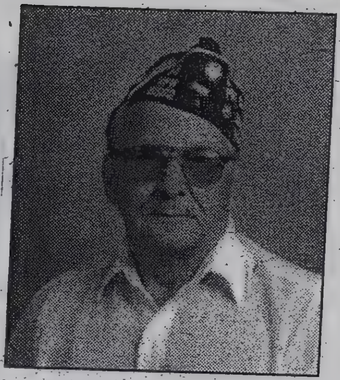
Mr Hamilton had lived in the area since 1962 and was a charter member of the former Avilla Jaycees.

He was born April 4, 1950, in Hayward, CA, to Richard P. and Doris L. (Streeton) Hamilton. His mother survives in Kendallville, and his father died October 29, 1999.

Also surviving are his caregiver, Lisa Spaw of Avilla; three brothers and sisters-in-law, David and Mona Hamilton and Mark and Stacy Hamilton, all of Kendallville, and Bruce and Jill Hamilton of Auburn; and six nieces, Elizabeth, Jennifer, April, Lisa, Carmen, and Cathy Hamilton.

Services were held Saturday, August 16, 2003, at Brazzell Funeral Home in Avilla with the Rev. David Wilson officiating. Burial with military graveside services by Avilla American Legion Post 240 was in Lake View Cemetery in Kendallville.

Memorials are to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.



Ronald Wilkinson

SOUTH WHITLEY – Ronald J. Wilkinson, 78, a resident of South Whitley, died Saturday, August 16, 2003, at the VA Medical Center in Indianapolis where he was admitted on Thursday, August. 14. He had been in failing health for the past few years.

He was born December 9, 1924, in Fort Wayne, Indiana, a son of Ronald B. and Clara (Burkhardt) Wilkinson. His formative years were spent in Fort Wayne where he was educated.

In December 1942, he enlisted in the United States Navy, serving during World War II. He was honorably discharged February 3, 1946.

In 1968, he was united in marriage to Mary A. (Stotlar) Goodwin. They made their home in Bluffton until 1971 when they moved to their present home in South Whitley.

A truck driver for many years, he retired from Howard Sober's Trucking.

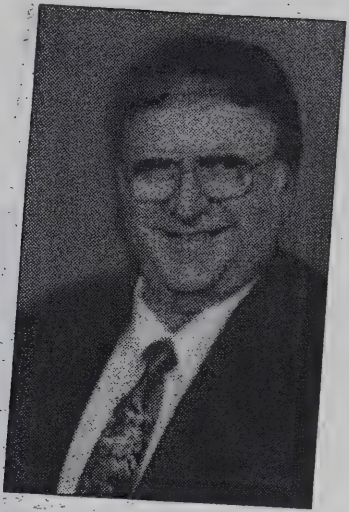
He was a member of the V.F.W. Post #2689 in Huntington and the American Legion. He served as Commander of the Columbia City V.F.W. Post #5582 from 1992 until 1993.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; three sons, Ronald "Skip" Wilkinson of Orland, IN, Jim L. (Gillian) Wilkinson of Albion and Dale E. (Phyllis) Wilkinson of Fort Wayne; three step sons, Donald R. Goodwin, Ronald K. Goodwin, and John W. (Cindy) Goodwin, all of Bluffton; 14 grandchildren; several great grandchildren; brothers Paul Wilkinson of Syracuse, Dennis Wilkinson of Decatur, Dick Wilkinson of Kendallville, Jim Wilkinson and Don Wilkinson, both of Florida; and a sister, Martha Willoughby of New Haven.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Kenny, Bob and Tom; and a sister, Doris Holmes.

The funeral service was held Wednesday, August 20, 2003, at Smith and Sons Miller Chapel, South Whitley with Rev. John Hofer officiating. Burial was in Covington Memorial Gardens, Fort Wayne. The Huntington V.F.W. Post #2689 presented military honors at the cemetery.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to the Humane Society of Whitley County.



Edward Edwards

ALBION – Edward L. Edwards, 66, was pronounced dead on arrival at Adams County Memorial Hospital in Decatur on Saturday, August 16, 2003.

Mr. Edwards was employed for 40 years with the Indiana Department of Transportation and retired earlier this year as a landscaping supervisor. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and a member of Merriam Christian Chapel, who enjoyed fishing, hunting and playing horseshoes.

He was born on May 23, 1937, in Noble County to Fred and Elsie (Brackney) Edwards. He graduated from Albion High School in 1956 and attended Tri-State University. He married Mary Lois Bair on September 17, 1960, in Massachusetts. The couple lived all their married life in Noble Township. She survives.

Also surviving are a son, Craig Edwards of Wolcottville, and several nieces and nephews.

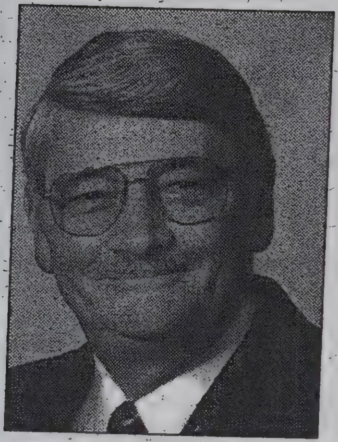
He was preceded in death by a brother, Philip Edwards, and a sister, Beth Young.

Services were held Tuesday, August 19, 2003, at Merriam Christian Chapel. Pastors Terry L. Zolman and Steve Pulley officiated. Burial was in the Christian Chapel Cemetery in Merriam.

Memorials are to Merriam Christian Chapel building fund.

ALBION NEW ERA

AUGUST 20 2003 ALBION, INDIANA



Roger Boggs

COLUMBIA CITY – Roger D. Boggs, 69, a resident of Etna Troy Township, Whitley County, died Tuesday, August 12, 2003, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne. He had been in failing health for the past two months.

He was born June 9, 1934, in Etna, Indiana, a son of J. Heber and Edith (Fisher) Boggs. his formative years were spent on a farm in Etna. He was educated in the Etna School and North Webster High School

On May 28, 1953, he was united in marriage to Shirley A. Wolfe. They made their home in Huntington, Fort Wayne and Columbia City, moving to their present home three years ago.

He was first employed at Farmer's Elevator, then Phelps Dodge Magnet Wire for 22 years, proprietor of The Friendly Inn in Albion from 1978 until 1981, and retired from Dana P.T.G. in Columbia City in 1999.

He was a member of the Indiana National Guard for seven years and the U.A.W.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley; two daughters and a son, Jamesanna (Jeff) Webb of Auburn, Robert J. (Nancy) Boggs of Albion and Rebecca Brown of Pierceton; five grandchildren; two step grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; three brothers, Stanley Boggs of Oak Grove, LA, Otto Boggs and C.L. Boggs, both of Columbia City; and a sister, Amanda J. Brink of Elk Grove, MI.

He was preceded in death by his parents and stepmother, Dortha.

Services were held Friday, August 15, 2003, at Smith and Sons Funeral Home in Columbia City with Pastor Orlo Hibbs officiating. Burial will be at a later date at Stough Cemetery, north of Columbia City.

For those who wish, memorials may be made to the donor's favorite charity.

THE NEWS SUN

AUGUST 21 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Clyde Wainscott

SHIPSHEWANA — Clyde M. Wainscott, 70, of Shipshewana, died at 6:07 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2003, at St. Joseph Medical Center, South Bend. He had suffered from complications of cancer.

Mr. Wainscott

He was an Indiana State Police trooper for 22 years in the Ligonier district, a utilities superintendent for Shipshewana for 20 years and worked for Tuscany Motor coach for four years.

On Feb. 15, 1933, in Decatur County, Ind., he was born to George and Judith (Walker) Wainscott. He married Lois Neville in Clarksburg, Ind., on July 26, 1953. She survives.

He moved to Shipshewana in 1958.

Mr. Wainscott was a U.S. Navy veteran and a member of the LaGrange American Legion.

Surviving in addition to his wife are two daughters and a son-in-law, Pat Wainscott of Lapel, and Pam and Rod Davis of Nashville, Tenn.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Steve and Jane Wainscott of Topeka, and Mike and Denise Wainscott of Little River, S.C.; a sister and brother-in-law, Virginia and Arthur Hash of Greensburg; two grandchildren; and three foster grandchildren.

Two brothers, George Jr. and Bill Wainscott, and his parents preceded him in death.

Services will be at 8 p.m. Friday at Shipshewana United Methodist Church, Shipshewana, with the Rev. Scott Carmer officiating.

Calling will be from 1 to 3 and 5 to 8 p.m. Friday at the church.

Memorials are to the LaGrange County Cancer Society or donor's choice.

Miller-Stewart Funeral Home in Middlebury is in charge of arrangements.

Annie Martin

LIGONIER — Annie May Martin, 86, of Ligonier, formerly of Virginia, died at 8:35 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2003, at Avalon Village, Ligonier.

On March 21, 1917, in Martinsville, Va., she was born to James Henry and Maddie Lou (Arnold) Wyatt. On Dec. 26, 1938, she married Commillous (C.M.) Martin in Virginia. He preceded her in death.

For the past two years she had resided in Ligonier health care facilities due to failing health.

She was a nurse's aide in home health care and nursing homes, and enjoyed cooking and helping people.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, William Curtis and Beverly Martin of Wawaka; a brother, William E. Wyatt of West Branch, Mich.; a sister, Nancy Hawker of Danville, Va.; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

In addition her parents and husband, a daughter, Barbara Gay Johnson, five brothers and a sister preceded her in death.

Graveside services will be conducted in Mercy Seat Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Halifax County, Va., on Monday.

There is no local visitation.

Ulrey-Renner Funeral Home, Ligonier, is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN

AUGUST 22 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

William Steiner

WABASH — William "Bill" Deane Steiner, 79, of Wabash, formerly of Lynn, died at 7 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003, in his daughter's home in Butler.

In Pandora in Putnam County, Ohio, he was born on June 26, 1924, to William H. and Idonna (Trout) Steiner. He married Grace Lewis on Dec. 21, 1945. She survives.

Mr. Steiner had lived in Wabash since 1965.

He was a public school music teacher for 39 years, having taught in Wayne and Columbus Grove, Ohio; junior high school in Monroe, Mich.; Lynn High School for 12 years; Wabash High School for five years; Westview High School for two years; and Kokomo Bon Air for 17 years.

He organized high school choir and was band director in Lynn that was rated first in Indiana music competition for 10 years.

Mr. Steiner organized Belles and Beaux at Wabash High School and for five years directed the group that sang for many local organizations. Crystal Gayle was a member of this singing group.

At Westview High School, he was band director for two years, Sunshine Kids Bon Air, Church Choir director at Lynn Church of Christ for 12 years.

At Wabash Christian Church he was choir director for five years, and at Saint Matthew's United Church of Christ for 10 years.

He was a 50-year member of the Lions Club having been a charter member of Lynn Lions Club and participated in LaFontaine Lions Club.

Mr. Steiner was a member of the Muncie Music Association, American Federation of Musicians, National Education Association, Indiana Retired Teachers, American Legion Post 15, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 286, Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, Phil Delta Kappa International and the American Choir Directors Association.

He was also a member of the St. Matthew's United Church of Christ, National Band Association, MENC Music Educators, International Association for Jazz Education, Wabash County Retired Teachers, Honeywell Volunteer Ushers, Wabash Community Theater and Schoolmasters Bowling League.

The Bowling Green State University graduate was also a graduate of Indiana University and attended the Fred Waring Chorale Workshop in Delaware Water Gap, Pa.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II having served on the U.S.S. Mitchell.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are: three sons and a daughter-in-law, Kurt Steiner, Albany, Ga., Deane and Sue Steiner, Kokomo, and Shawn Steiner, Burbank, Calif.; a daughter and son-in-law, Kendallville dentist Dr. Shannon L. and Jeffrey Arnett, Butler; a sister and brother-in-law, Betty and Robert Goldsberry, Elkhorn, Wis.; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, a brother preceded him in death.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at St. Matthew's United Church of Christ, Wabash, with grandson Ted Troxell officiating.

Calling will be 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the church.

Memorials are to the music fund of St. Matthews United Church of Christ.

McDonald Funeral Home, LaFrontaine, is in charge of arrangements.

Diann Croy

STURGIS, MICH. — Diann Marie Croy, 60, Sturgis, Mich., died Thursday, Aug. 21, 2003, at her home following an extended illness.

In Sturgis on Oct. 27, 1942, she was born to Russell and Doris (Rowlison) Hardesty. On May 28, 1960, she married Donald Croy in Colon, Mich.

She had been employed by Precision Speed in Sturgis for the past six years and attended the Sturgis Missionary Church. She enjoyed doing crafts and helping others.

Surviving, in addition to her husband, are: a daughter and son-in-law, Dyanna and Fred Kennedy, Vicksburg; a son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Jennie Croy, Sturgis; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Connie Rhodes, Sturgis, and Charlotte and Jerry Nichols, Kendallville; a foster sister, Marty Wheeler, Sturgis; nine grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Her parents and a brother, Russell Hardesty Jr., preceded her in death.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Hackman-Foglesong Funeral Home, Sturgis, with Rev. Dale Gerig officiating. Cremation will follow the service.

A private graveside committal of the ashes will take place at the Matteson Cemetery in Bronson, Mich., at a later date.

Calling is 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Memorials are to the family.

Barbara Lane

BRIMFIELD — Barbara Ellen Lane, 71, of Brimfield, died at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2003, at her residence, following an extended illness.

On Aug. 14, 1932, in Hartford City, she was born to Roger and Helen (Boyer) Boxell. She married Frank Lane who preceded her in death in 1991.

She had lived in Brimfield for 14 months having moved from LaGrange.

Mrs. Lane worked for Pierce-Governor in Upland and retired in 1989, and was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Hartford City.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Ronda (Miller) Lane, Juneau, Wis.; a sister, Shirley Carpenter, Hartford City; six grandchildren, Sonya Upton, Eric, Mark, Chance and Dylan Lane, and Jason Salisbury; and two great-granchuildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, a brother and three sisters preceded her in death.

There are no services and visitation.

Hutchins Funeral Home of Wolcottville is in charge of arrangements.

Jo Ellen Strowmatt

AVILLA — Jo Ellen Strowmatt, 49, died Thursday, Aug. 21, 2003, at the Parkview Memorial Hospital in Fort Wayne.

On Jan. 3, 1954, in Kendallville, she was born to Charles Everett and Neva Evalyn (Herendeen) Musselman. Her father preceded her in death in 1998. Her mother survives in Kendallville.

Surviving, in addition to her mother, are two daughters and a son-in-law, Dawn and Brian Rottger, Wabash, and Janet Coppock; a son and daughter-in-law, Garry and Amanda Strowmatt, Avilla; a sister and brother-in-law, Glenda Lou and John Kobiela, St. Paris, Ohio; a brother and sister-in-law, Dennis and Pam Musselman, Kendallville; and 10 grandchildren.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Hite Funeral Home, Kendallville, with Rev. Stan Kessler officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Cemetery, Kendallville.

Calling is from 4 to 8 p.m. today and one hour before the service at the funeral home.

Condolences are to the family, or sign the online guest book at www.hitefuneral-home.com.

Blaine Stetler

FLAGLER BEACH, Fla. — Blaine Lee Stetler, 60, died Thursday, Aug. 22, 2003, at his Flagler Beach, Fla., home.

He was an instructor for over 125 radio-controlled airplane students and published several articles on radio-controlled airplanes. He was a member of the Flagler County Radio-Controlled Airplane Club, past president of two clubs in Citrus County and a member of the English Club. He was a former member of Jaycees in Angola, a volunteer at the Arc Angels Thrift Shop in Bunnell and a member of the Flagler Beach Yacht Club, the Barrier-Free Committee and the Save the Manatee Committee. He enjoyed fishing.

He was born in Marshall, Mich., to Amos W. and Bessie L. (Throop) Stetler.

Surviving are his wife of 37 years, Mary; a son, Christopher, of Bunnell; two daughters, Regina and Patricia Stetler of Ocala, Fla.; a sister, Marilyn Ellet of Albion; three brothers, Leon of Albion and Willard Neal and Noel of Fremont.

A gathering of family members and friends will take place today from 5-7 p.m. in the chapel of Craig Funeral Home, 511 Old Kings Road South, Flagler Beach.

Memorials are to the Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation, 804 W. Diamond Ave. 210, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

Richard Pattee

FORT WAYNE — Richard "Dick" Pattee, 76, died Friday, Aug. 22, 2003, at home in Fort Wayne.

He was a welder for International Harvester for 38 years, retiring in 1981, and also worked at XY Tool & Die Inc. for 12 years. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and a member of American Legion Post No. 240 in Avilla and Agape Church of the Brethren.

He was born in Fort Wayne.

Surviving are his wife, Lois J., of Fort Wayne; two daughters and a son-in-law, Michele and Tim Gerst of Avilla and Deborah E. Pattee of West Liberty, Ohio; four sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Kim of Urbana, Ohio, [redacted] of Columbia City and Gregg and Angie of Seminole, Fla.; a sister, Dorothy England of Fort Wayne; a brother, Robert, of Springfield, Ohio, nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

A brother, Harry, two sisters, Donna and Helen, and a granddaughter, Heather, preceded him in death.

Services will be Monday at 1 p.m. at D.O. McComb & Sons Pine Valley Park Funeral Home, 1320 E. Dupont Road.

Calling will be Sunday from 2-5 and 7-9 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Greenlawn Memorial Park. Memorials are to Agape Church of the Brethren of Parkview Home Health Care & Hospice.

Betty Conrad

LAGRANGE — Betty L. Conrad, 74, of LaGrange, died Friday, Aug. 22, 2003, at LaGrange Community Hospital.

She was an employee for McDonald's Corp. and a LaGrange County resident for the last 42 years.

She was born Dec. 1, 1928, in Marion to Henry and Sarah (Johnson) Oneil. On April 7, 1946 in Hartford City, she married William M. Conrad, and he preceded her in death on Nov. 15, 1978. A sister, Henrietta Kessinger, and three brothers, Jack Oneil, Carl "Phillip" Oneil and Bill Oneil, are also deceased.

Surviving are two daughter and a son-in-law, Peggy and Christopher Bailey of LaGrange and Sally Conrad of Huguenot, N.Y.; a sister, Peggy Sproat of Richmond; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be Monday at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in LaGrange, with the Rev. Paul Faroh officiating. Calling will be Sunday from 2-5 p.m. at Frurip-May Funeral Home in LaGrange, with a rosary service at 5 p.m.

Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery, Howe. Memorials are to Parkside Elementary School.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 23 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Lois Hetrick

KENDALLVILLE — Lois A. Hetrick, 90, died Friday, Aug. 22, 2003, at Shepherd of the Hill nursing home in Kendallville.

She was a homemaker and had worked in an office at Boystown, Neb.

She was born Dec. 12, 1912, in Durango, Colo., to Charles and Alberta (Campbell) Daggett. Her first marriage was to Don Wyckoff and her second marriage was to Orville Hetrick. Both preceded her in death. A son, George C. Wyckoff, is also deceased.

Surviving are a daughter, Pat Read of Kendallville; and seven grandchildren, Jodie Speheger of Kendallville, David Read of Muncie, Rex Read of Albany, Jill Benson of Narvon, Pa., and Robert, David and Tammy Wyckoff of League City, Texas.

There will be no services or calling. Burial will be at a later date.

Hite Funeral Home in Kendallville is in charge of arrangements. Send condolences or sign the guest register at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

The following obituary is being reprinted to add a survivor.

Barbara Lane

BRIMFIELD — Barbara Ellen Lane, 71, of Brimfield, died at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2003, at her residence, following an extended illness.

On Aug. 14, 1932, in Hartford City, she was born to Roger and Helen (Boyer) Boxell. She married Frank Lane, who preceded her in death in 1991.

She had lived in Brimfield for 14 months, having moved from LaGrange.

Mrs. Lane worked for Pierce-Governor in Upland and retired in 1989, and was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Hartford City.

Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, Gary and Ronda (Miller) Lane of Juneau, Wis.; one daughter, Gloria Lane of Wawaka; a sister, Shirley Carpenter of Hartford City; six grandchildren, Sonya Upton, Eric, Mark, Chance and Dylan Lane, and Jason Salisbury; and two great-granchuildren.

In addition to her husband and parents, a brother and three sisters preceded her in death.

There are no services and visitation.

Hutchins Funeral Home of Wolcottville is in charge of arrangements.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 24 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

Family, friends gather to remember Andy

BY JAMIE LEMKE-BARRAND
jamiel@kpcnews.net

FREMONT — Joyce Halt remembers her grandson, Andy, as having "impish, boyish ways."

"He pulled a lot of tricks, and we have a lot of fond memories of him," Joyce said, her smiling voice wavering with impending tears.

So did a lot of people. At Andy Mauk's funeral service on Wednesday, friends and family packed the Fremont United Methodist Church to say good-bye to their son, grandson, brother, nephew, cousin, classmate and friend.

"There was such a tremendous outpouring of love and support," Joyce said. "People were so good to us and they loved him so much. That so many people came to say good-bye to him … it was such a blessing."

Andrew "Andy" James Mauk, 20, died Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003, in Carroll County as a result of an automobile accident. He was the son of Greg and Dr. Susan J. Mauk, who both survive in Fremont, where Andy grew up.

"I would say he was full of life and energy," said Joyce. "He loved the outdoors and his relatives. He had a lot of younger cousins who really looked up to him. He was what they thought a man should be."

Joyce said Andy, his parents, and his younger sister, Melissa, 17, were a very tight-knit family.

"He was so close to his sister," she said. "I'm afraid this will be very hard on her. She looked up to him."

Andy graduated from Fremont High School in 2001.

Andy was a student at Purdue University, West Lafayette, where he was studying building construction management.

"My two sons went to Purdue, and I think Andy was following in their footsteps," Joyce said. "He thought a lot of his uncles."

Andy was an avid athlete. He was a recipient of the Max L. Mitchell Sportsmanship Award. He enjoyed football, wrestling and baseball. He also enjoyed jet skiing and wake boarding.

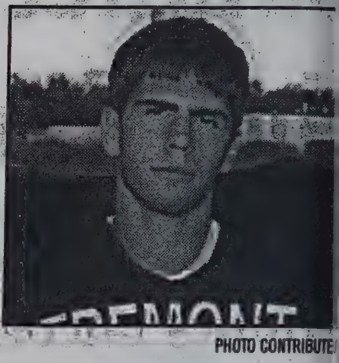


PHOTO CONTRIBUTE

Andrew "Andy" James Mauk, 20, died Saturday, Aug. 16, 2003, in Carroll County as a result of an automobile accident. He grew up in Fremont.

THE NEWS SUN
AUGUST 24 2003 Kendallville, Indiana

This obituary is being republished with corrected information.

Lois Hetrick

KENDALLVILLE — Lois A. Hetrick, 90, died Friday, Aug. 22, 2003, at the Shepherd of the Hill in Kendallville.

She was born to Charles and Alberta (Campbell) Daggett on Dec. 12, 1912, in Durango, Colo.

She married Don Wyckoff and after his death married Orville Hetrick. Both husbands preceded her in death.

Mrs. Hetrick was a homemaker and had worked in the office of Boystown, Neb.

She is survived by a daughter, Pat Reade of Kendallville; and other relatives, Jodie Speheger of Kendallville, David Reade of Muncie, Rex Reade of Albany, Jill Benson of Narvon Pa., and Robert, David and Tammy Wyckoff of League City, Texas.

One son, George Wyckoff, preceded her in death.

There will be no visitation or services. Burial will be at a later date.

Send condolences or sign the online guest register at www.hitefuneralhome.com.

Robert Boots

HUDSON — Robert V. Boots, 87, of Hudson, died Friday, Aug. 22, 2003, in Parkview Hospital at Fort Wayne.

Mr. Boots was born to Clyde and Mary Boots in Salem Township on Aug. 30, 1915.

He graduated from Salem Center High School in 1934, marrying Byrdena Alleshouse on July 18, 1937, in Angola. He worked as a self-employed farmer.

Mr. Boots was a charter member of the Salem Center Fire Department and a member of the Steuben County Farm Bureau and Salem Center Presbyterian Church.

Surviving are his wife, Byrdena Boots, in Hudson; three sons and daughters-in-law, Alan and Barbara Boots of Howe, Vance Boots and Marynelle Keller of Hudson and Eric and Joanne Boots of Hudson; 13 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Russell Boots, and a brother, Kenyon Boots.

Services will be at Salem Center Presbyterian Church on Tuesday at 11 a.m. The Rev. Howard G. Compton will officiate. Burial will be in Flint Cemetery.

Visitation is on Monday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Johnson-Klink Funeral Home, 108 S. West St., Angola.

Memorials are to Salem Center Fire Rescue and Salem Center Presbyterian Church.

John Grush

ST. JOE — John F. Grush, 79, died Saturday morning at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne.

He was born to Charles D. and Iva (Young) Grush on Jan. 12, 1924, in Fort Wayne.

He married Mary (Boyd) Swary on June 17, 1989, in the Concord United Methodist Church.

Mr. Grush retired from Dana after 40 years as a gear tester. He was a World War II Army veteran and a member of the Spencerville United Methodist Church and the Dana Sympathy Club.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, of St. Joe; six sons, Michael Grush of Fort Wayne, Patrick Grush of Spencerville, Peter Grush and Paul Grush, both of Grabill, and Mark Grush and David Grush, both of Leo; two stepsons James Swary of St. Joe and Michael Swary of Auburn; nine grandchildren, six stepgrandchildren and 10 stepgreat-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two previous wives, Patricia Grush in 1960 and Helen Grush in 1988; and a half-brother, Ivan Sincoe, in 1960.

Services will be Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the Spencerville United Methodist Church with Pastor Gerry Weesner officiating.

Calling will be Monday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Carnahan-Baidinger & Walter Funeral Home in Spencerville. Burial will be in South Whitley.

Memorial are to the American Diabetes Association, 7363 E. 21st St., Indianapolis, IN 46219.

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